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A
COLLECTION
OF THE
STATE PAPERS
OF

JOHN THURLOE, Esq;
SECRETARY,
First, to the Council of State,
And afterwards to
The Two PROTECTORS,
Oliver and Richard Cromwell.
In SEVEN VOLUMES.

CONTAINING
Authentic MEMORIALS of the *English* Affairs from the Year 1638
to the RESTORATION of King CHARLES II.

Published from the ORIGINALS, formerly in the Library of JOHN Lord SOMERS,
Lord High Chancellor of *England*; and since in that of Sir JOSEPH Jekyll, Knt.
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The LIFE of Mr. THURLOE.

With a Complete INDEX to each VOLUME.

By THOMAS BIRCH, M. A. F. R. S.

V O L. III.

Containing Papers from December MDCLIV to September MDCLV.

L O N D O N :

Printed for the EXECUTOR of the late Mr. FLETCHER GYLES;
THOMAS WOODWARD, at the Half-Moon, between the Temple-Gates, in Fleet-street;
And CHARLES DAVIS, in Pater-noster Row.

MDCCXLII.

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to the Restoration of King CHARLES II.

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THOMAS BIRCH, M.A.

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE



Printed by J. Sturges, at the University Press, Cambridge.

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STATE PAPERS

OF

John Thurloe, Esq; &c.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

IT seemes the French fleet staid before Naples at lest six dayes after they imbarkt A. D. 1654.
 theyr men, by reason of contrary winds, and by the last letters thence they were stil in
 syht of that place. Whether they ar bownd into the gulf of Venis to land theyr Vol. xxi. p. 13.
 men on that syde, or wil do it on this in the pope's state is not yet known. The French
 horse about 4000, are departed out of Piemont, and cardinal Grimaldi is gon up to the
 confynes of Millan to tak order for the passage throh the duke of Parma and Modena's coun-
 tryes. Thes princes hav commanded al theyr own piple six myles from the hyh way that
 leads to Rom, to retyre themselves into wal'd townes, to avoid injurys from the soldiors:
 You may se in what a condition the kingdom of Naples is, or rather the Spanyard, that
 commands it; a powerfull army of French backt by the pope redy to assault it, and an op-
 prest and discontented pople within, that certainly wil be glad to change theyr present con-
 dition, althoh for a worse.

It is sayd, the treaty twixt the Spanyard and Genowes goes well on, and that severall things
 ar ajusted betwixt 'um. But in case the Spanyard should so far prevail, as make the Genowes
 declare for him, they would fynd the French a sharpe thorn in theyr syds.

Cardinal Rez is arryv'd at Rom. The duke of Savoy is to marry the cardinal Mazzarin's
 niece, by which meanes he shal clear his country both of the French and Spanyard. 'Tis
 here reported, that the king of France shall marry the duk of Savoye's sifter.

Here is arryved in this port an English ship with herrings in sixteen dayes from Yarmouth:
 twelve dayes since she spake with sum of generall Blak's fleet in the streits-mouth; another
 small English ship is arryved in eleven dayes from Lisbon, wher wer seven Brest men of war
 bownd for thes seas, to joyn with the Tollon fleet, but hearing general Blake lyes in the
 streits-mouth, they dare not stur. I shall use what dilligence I can, to hear wher the French
 are, that I may advys general Blake thereof. Herin and in what els concerns the public
 good, or my particuler obligations to yourself, I shall in al things endeavour to shew myself,

Honourable sir,

Leg. 11 Decem. 1654. [N. S.]

your most humble and
 faithful servant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

A Letter of intelligence from Mr. Augiers secretary.

Paris, the 11 December, 1654. [N. S.]

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxi. p. 1.

THEY speak of nothing here at this present, but of cardinal Mazarin's father's death at Rome happened the night of the 1st and 2^d, and of the new landing made by the duke of Guise in Castelmare, about some twelve or fifteen leagues from Naples. The notice we have thereof is of the 17 of the same month of November, there being so much credit given unto the aforesaid landing, that madame du Pleffis Belliere, whose husband is with the duke, writ yesterday, that she verily believed it, although there was not yet any express post sent thereof; so that all the other landings, whereof I had the honour to inform you saturday last upon the notice come from Genoa and Marseilles, have no likelihood. The said letters bear, that the vice-king of Naples had written thereof unto the ministers of Spain at Rome, and informed them, that the said duke had seized upon the place by stratagem, having only shot at it, whilst 1500 Italians he had landed in another place having made a circuit to make believe, that they came from Naples, having presented themselves before it, and been received therein as a relief, which the vice-king sent to that garrison, had mastered the place, and slain all that opposed themselves thereunto; in consequence whereof the said duke was entered therein: but this news requires one should expect its confirmation, before one giveth credit thereunto.

It's thought, that it is upon those affairs that prince Thomas takes a journey to Turin; and I hear, that this court lureth the king's marriage with the daughter of Savoy, that they may amongst other things the easier obtain leave for the French army to winter in Italy.

We have no other remarkable news, save one, that they have discovered the author of the rumour happened some months since at Rennes upon the subject of religion, who being a papist is run away to Rome. Whereupon his majesty's council have sent that process to the parliament of Paris, prohibiting of Rennes to inform thereof upon penalty of interdiction.

They had also some weeks since informed here against one of duke of Orleans's trumpeters, a protestant, by reason that in going to Charenton he had caused the coach, wherein he was, to be driven faster than ordinary in meeting the God of the mass in the suburb St. Germain, instead of stopping, according to the priest's desire; as though we were obliged to worship their idols. But at the marshal of Turenne's instance, that proceeding hath been cashiered by this parliament, and put the parties out of court and process.

A Letter from the Hague.

Mr. Chanut, the French ambassador in Holland, to Mr. Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Hague, the 11 December, 1654. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxi. p. 5.

RETURNING from Teling eight days since, I received the Letters, which you were pleased to write to me of the 20th and 27th of the last month, and now at this instant that of the 4th of this month: it is true, that the not receiving of that of the 20th did very much trouble me; for I never go abroad to hear any news upon the subject of your affairs; not that I do think, that it is so great a mischief to us, that the English do love to have rather war with us than peace; but because it is a business of great consequence. *Et mori nolo, sed me mortuum esse nihil existimo*: I am as to that in your negotiation. And as to yourself, my lord, the honour of your conduct will be no less; for there is no failure to be found with you; for you have demonstrated to the world the good inclination the king has to make peace; so that you have done for your part all that could be contributed by a prudent minister. I am much troubled about your last letter, my secretary being absent, who hath the cypher, being of an opinion, there would be none for me by this post; so that I cannot decypher that which is in character.

The fleet of Blake hath not yet fought us in the Mediterranean.

The lords of Holland, as I wrote you word eight days ago, have revived the negotiation of renewing the alliance with us, and have sent their advice to the generality, who have appointed commissioners to draw the articles; and their report being heard, they will send commissioners to confer with me. What you shall do at London will have a very great reflection upon our work with these provinces. We shall have suddenly the lord Bevering here, with whom I shall so manage my business, according to those steps you have prescribed to me. If he hath any good inclination to your affairs, I will cultivate it the best

I can.

JOHN THURLOE ESQ. &c.

3

I can. And when I shall clearly see, that he hath not any, yet however I will not differ A. D. 1654.
nor break with him. There are none more obliged to the laws of christian charity than those of our trade.

They write me from Lower Saxony, that the business of Bremen will be accommodated; and I understand, that the Swedes do not hold themselves much obliged to the offers of the lords commissioners of this state, and do believe, that without them they should have brought those of the city to have yielded more unto them. The two points, about which they dispute at present, are the fortifications of Bourg, which the Swedes will have demolished; and the publick exercise of Lutheranism in a church of the city, which the magistrate, a very zealous calvinist, will not suffer.

General Monk to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I HAVE received your letter of the 23 of November, by which I understand, the intelligence of the Scotch king his purpose to come for Scotland is still confirmed.

In case hee comes, I doubt not wee shall (through the blessing of God) keepe him back in such a cuntry, where hee cannot ride or travell, but in trouses and a plad, if you continue the forces now a foote heere. How you will carry on your business, the fess being but 60,000 l. a month, passes my understanding. I am sorry for the rumour you mention. Our eyes must bee towards the Lord for averting them.

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

I send you heere inclosed copies of two papers, which have been sent to some of our guarri-fons heere, that you may see how endeavors are used to sowe sedition; but (I trust in God) it will bee in vaine.

And if it please God to ciment you all there, I doubt not but wee shall make a cleere end of the warr heere the next summer. Middleton for the present is very weake as to horse or foote. What hee intends, I knowe not. Hee lives in a remote place (where wee cannot come to winter) on his friends, where his living must bee very uncomfortable for himselfe and them. I remaine

Dalkeith, 2 December,
1654.

Your most affectionat friend

and servant,

GEORGE MONCK.

General Disbrowe to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

THE ships in the enclosed lyst were this day compleated with their provisions; save Vol.xxi.p.21;
only some part of their water; and I did hope on tuesday to have putt 1800 foot on board, if the winde and weather should be faire; but as yet I heare nothing of any of the foot-officers, nor of any body to pay them off at their shipping. I heare this night, that there be some companys of colonel Heane's regiment at Pharum, but no captains with them; and also that they say, they doe not expect their captains this five or six dayes. I humbly conceive, that there may be some need of commissions, if any of the officers should fayle. Therefore if your highnesse please to order Mr. Malyn to send downe six or ten blanke commissions to me the next post, if there should be use of them, I could cause them to be filled up: if not use of them, I should returne them to him. I hope if the next weeke be fayre weather, the rest of the fleet will be ready to take the first winde. I have not further trouble to give your highnesse now, onely to subscribe myself,

Portsmouth, the 2 of
December, 1654.

Your highnesse humble servant,

JOHN DISBROWE.

Count Brienne to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in London.

Paris 12 Decemb. 1654. [N. S.]

I WAS beginning to write to you at the same time your letter of the 29 past was deliver- Vol.xxi.p.29;
ed to me, to tell you, that the important affairs, wherewith we have been busy all this while, have hindered us from consulting about those of England, till thursday last at the council, which was met that day, where it was said, that the monday following they would resolve upon the English affairs; and having thought fit to give you advice of the receipt of your letter at this time, I will refer what I had projected to tell you till the next post. It was

A. D. 1654. was last night late, and this morning being with his majesty, who was going to Vincennes, and having read to him your letter, he did command me to advertise you, that you should punctually observe the contents in my foregoing letter, and that on the next monday without fail a resolution be taken in your business, and the next day it shall be sent unto you by an express. In the mean time contrive as often as you can to write of the design of their fleet, because now and then we conjecture at their design; and to the end we will not be surprized, good order will be given in all places.

The count de Charost, governor of Calais, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

MY LORD,

Vol.xxi. p.33. I AM sorry to hear, that after two years negotiation, your business now at last is like to end in a breach with the lord protector: it is a very sad story, that having decided the chiefest of your articles, a punctilio in point of signing should cause a rupture in your treaty. Methinks there may be a means found to accommodate that business. It is said the duke of Guise is landed within seven miles of Naples, and that he hath defeated 1700 men.

You will be obliged to make a compliment, as well as myself, to his eminence, who hath lost his father. I hope to go shortly to court, but it will not be before I take my leave of you in another letter.

Calais, 13 Decemb. 1654. [N. S.]

General Disbrowe to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol.xxi. p.37. I Received yours of the second instant, and have by mine of the day before (which I sent by expresse to you) given my thoughts in the things that did then occur.

The Torrington (commanded by captain Dakins, reere admiral of the whole squadron) being one of the chiefest ships that are gott ready, and generall Penne staying with the remainder, we judged it convenient the said reere admiral should command the division that goes first; and accordingly mentioned him to his highnesse to be one of the commissioners for managing what should be necessary at Barbadoes, and with him colonel Heane and Fortescue, as intending to put their regiments on board the said first division, if their officers came in any time. What more I can offer from hence, you will finde in my last, which since your sending of Mr. Tison, I hope you have received, and therefore shall now adde but the subscription of

Portsmouth, 3 Decemb.
1654.

Your affectionate friend and servant

JOHN DISBROWE.

I have as yet heard nothing from
any of the foot officers.

Rome, 14 December, 1654. [N. S.]

SIR,

V. xxi. p.481. THE post of France is not arrived this week, but by the last that came the 7th of this month, I received yours of the 5th last month, by which we are assured here of the quiet and gallant government to be settled in England and its dominions, by the prudence and conduct of the great and invincible commander, the lord protector, worthily memorable to all future ages, maugre his declining enemies.

Of news from hence since my last not much that concerns you near; for of the general peace, or R. C. here is not a word; and I shall be as careful of that, as is in my power; as also to learn what general Blake and his fleet's conditions is. I cannot learn any thing certain of him since his coming to the straits of Gibraltar; when I do farther, you shall know.

The scene is altered here since the Spanish victory against the duke of Guise. The pope lately said, he would have Spain to understand, that he disliked the cardinal Francis Antonio Barbarini, and therefore again renewed most severe orders, that no soldiers in Rome or his territories should be levied or quartered against Naples. But till the duke of Guise was beaten, the pope seemed of another mind; and now it is thought by many, that prince Nicolao Ludovisio and cardinal Astalli shall be recalled to court, and their offices; the first married to the pope's niece, and his general of armies; the latter his principal secretary of state; but both suspected justly to be of the Spanish faction. The old wise pope begins
now

now to fear, that after his own death all his friends and relations will be derelicted both by Spain and France: so it may well be. A. D. 1654.

The Spanish ambassador is vigilant and still silent. Some disgust lately intervened betwixt the governor of this city, being of the city of Cremona, and the Barbarinis; the cause is put in writing, which in time you shall have more.

The prince of Palestrino's leg was broken last week in hunting, much lamented by his friends.

Card. de Retz, after receiving the red hat, is now visiting the sacred college of cardinals, and in good esteem, as formerly I writ, notwithstanding Mazarin's cabals.

From Naples the last letters bring, that all being quiet there, the viceroy went with solemnity to the church called Madona de Constantinopoli, to perform a vow made in these last occasions of Naples; and endowed that church with 350 crowns yearly, and the citizens visited also the church, and bestowed five crowns a week for candles and light lamps, &c.

The duke of Guise would not accept of marquis Gonzaga, in exchange for the prince Castellaneta, and so sent back again to Naples Gonzaga, where he is now prisoner; but resolved to go to Paris with letters, and to relate the whole history of Guise's voyage to the king of France, and I hear the viceroy would not return the prince Castellaneta till then to the duke of Guise.

The land soldiers, that card. Antonio levied and sent towards La Brussa, are all come back with the rest of the Neapolitan banditti, and are in Florence, going to France by land, being afraid of the seas, as they have reason.

Of the men in the French ship sunk at Mondragon, 100 were saved and brought prisoners to Naples, 300 more were drowned, and all that was in the ship beside lost.

The last letters I have seen from Venice bring, that there arrived there lately a vessel with the body of noble Mocenigo, who dyed in Candia the 25 of October; and in the same ship came the duke of Parma's brother with some other officers.

The said commonwealth agreed with ten Flemish ships of war to have them about the 10th of Jan. at Malomocco, because the Venetian army is intended to be sooner in the campagne this year than in other years, according to the minds of general Borri, to prevent the Faccioli, who hasten likewise their army to the field in Dalmatia.

The magistrates of that commonwealth made a decent present to the prince Gustavus, brother to the new king of Sweden.

The naval and land army in Candia are at their winter quarters, &c.

The pope is pretty well; which is all the news now from,

Sir,

Yours, &c.

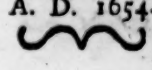
Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to the count de Brieune.

MY LORD,

I DID defer it till to day to give an account of the audience, which the lord protector Vol. xxi. p. 58. gave me the third of this month, upon the belief which I had to be able at the same time to signify his last resolution. But his ordinary proceeding full of delays doth oblige me to give an account of the discourse, which I had with him, and what I replied to what he objected, and also what I replied to that, which his ministers acquainted me with to day. I did complain of the little correspondence, which all the advances and the good will of the king had met with; of the tedious delay, with which he had used, in my negotiations under false pretences; of the different overtures of an accommodation, which had been made unto me; and of the little disposition to be willing to conclude, as my commissioners do declare, by the insisting upon expressions, which produce no advantage to this state, and which with honour I could not admit of; and by their denying to pass equal causes and of common right; which proceeding could not arise but from a mind altogether alienated and opposite to a peace, or of a confidence, that his majesty after so many endeavours to establish peace would buy it at last upon unjust conditions. And after I had declared, that although I had set my hand to many clauses more advantageous to England than France; yet notwithstanding I could not pass over those difficulties, which had been made unto me, without wounding the honour and dignity of the king. And that the one and the other did receive too much prejudice by my so long stay here in England, to be only spectator of the acts of hostility, which were committed from time to time against the French; as also the present state of affairs of the one and the other nation did not permit, that we should remain any longer time in an uncertainty of the designs of this state. I did declare to the said lord protector, that the last resolution of his majesty was to see at present the end of my negotiation; and that to this effect, although it were more advantageous for the welfare of the people, to establish a firm unity by a treaty, which should leave no

VOL. III.

subject

A. D. 1654.  subject to renew any acts of hostility hereafter; however that his majesty would approve of the six articles, which have been proposed unto me, in those terms as were agreed upon with my commissioners: only that his majesty did desire, that the arbitrators might not judge to the prejudice of our laws and ordinances, what was of common right in regard of the complaints, which those of Hamburg make at present against our ordinances of the sea; but that however his majesty would not refuse to be obliged to express in the article of arbitration. I also did agree about the secret article, upon condition, that the commissioners of the rebels of France should not be admitted into England, according to the tenor and method itself, that is observed between allies. And as for the title, after I had confirmed the esteem and the consideration, which the king had of the lord protector, I insisted upon the pre-eminence, which is due to the royal title, and to the dignity of the crown of France; adding withal, that I would refer my self to all the provisos, which should preserve the English nation in all their prerogatives, which that nation hath enjoyed in all the last treaties with France. In the end, after I had protested, that the orders of the king did not permit me to release any of those points, I desired the lord protector to give me presently his last answer, declaring that if it were not conformable to my offers, his majesty would be very much displeased to see himself deprived of the fruit of all his advances; but that he had this satisfaction to remain with him, that he had not forgot any thing, whereby to establish a good correspondence between the two nations. And that he did hope, that the justice of his cause being known to God and men, it would be accompanied with the same blessing from heaven, whereof France feels the effects from time to time in it's enterprizes.

The lord protector begun his answer by some general protestations of his inclination to accommodation; they were seconded by some bad reasons, which had caused so many delays and coming to the particular of the difficulties, which remain. He did declare upon the title, that his particular consideration should be no obstacle, provided the nation might preserve their dignity. And as to the limitation of the power of the arbitrators; he did refer it to a more ample examination by my commissioners. But he did very much enlarge himself upon the reciprocal clause of the secret article, to prove, that it was not just in general terms, in regard his majesty did only agree to the banishing of some particular persons already named. He afterwards entered into considerations, that the protestants of France would be excluded, from imploring the assistance of England, if they were prosecuted; protesting however, that he was very far from having any thought to draw them from the obedience they are now under, as had been imputed unto him: that he would arm against them, if they should offer frivolously and without a cause to disturb the peace of France.

The end of his discourse was, that I had ended mine very fiercely; and that England would always be in a condition to defend itself against it's enemies. This answer obliged me to reply to him, that I had provided for the interest of the nation, consenting that the treaty should be in the name of France and England; and that the commissioners should sign, as was practised in the times of the king. That so I did not see it to be necessary to find out any other expedient to accommodate this difference, nor also that the restitution of the arbitrators did require any longer examination, since I had already explained myself sufficiently to my commissioners those reasons, which did oblige us not to leave them so general a power, till the complaints of those of Hamburg were made known; and that there was no consideration, which could oblige his majesty to part from it, and to submit to the judgment of the said commonwealth his laws and ordinances. I did afterwards destroy the chiefest reason, upon which he did ground the denial on the reciprocal clause of the secret article, agreeing to make it mutual. And I did also complain, how that at the same time, that we spoke of an accommodation, he did seem, as if he would reserve to himself a pretence of war by his discourse concerning the protestants of France, which did blemish the publick faith against the ordinary proceeding of states, who do not meddle with the domestic affairs of one another; alledging the example of his majesty in regard of the catholics of England. And I took from him all manner of hope, that the said protestants do not expect any thing else from him, but the free exercise of their religion; nor that they can otherwise be persuaded, but that the great zeal of strangers in their behalf is only affected to cover other designs. That if it was sincere, this state could not better it than by uniting with France against those that do persecute them; and ought not under their pretence to reserve the liberty of opening a door to all the commissioners of the rebels of France.

He did seem to be satisfied with my reasons; and without entering into any further discourse, told me, that these differences might be better accommodated by commissioners, whom he would send unto me to that effect the next day. I did still insist to avoid this delay, in pressing terms, in regard this matter had been so often handled, and that the orders of the king did not permit me to release any one of these three points, nor to suffer myself to be delayed any longer with words and dilatory pretences.

This instance produced only an assurance, that the said commissioners should give me the next day a precise answer. I must confess, I was persuaded in myself, I should have received

received it ; but after I had waited till the ninth at night, they sent to excuse themselves A. D. 1654.
upon the extraordinary affairs, which were fallen out, without appointing another day.

I have since prest them to satisfy the promise, which the lord protector made me ; but as well the secretary as the commissioners do excuse themselves, in regard his highness hath not yet declared unto them his intentions ; and yet they do not forbear to declare, that they will not depart from their first answers, which have been given me. So that I do not find myself advanced any further than before my audience ; and all that time it lasted, which was about two hours, I did not forget any thing, which might serve to take away all hope from him, that the king would leave me here any longer time, nor agree to any other conditions : but in regard the departure of the fleet is deferred for three weeks longer, and their design changed from going to the Indies, and it is said to be intended for the assistance of the province of Holland ; and the lord Beverning's sudden going over doth fill us with surmises, and the protector not being willing to give me any answer ; that if his majesty being weary of his proceeding so full of contempt, will pass over these considerations, which are propounded unto me, I shall submit my judgment to his orders ; and if they order me, I will make some addressees to the parliament before I depart home ; in regard they are to sit yet three months, there will be time enough to be heard. I will not press it till I have an answer to this letter, there being more inconvenience to precipitate the breach then defer it for some time, especially if it were resolved upon the advice of this country differing from mine.

14th December 1654. [N. S.]

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to cardinal Mazarin.

14th December 1654. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

THE condition of the negotiation, and the last orders, which the count de Brienne Vol.xxi.p.82.
hath sent me, do not leave me any thing to add to the letter, which I have writ to him. But that, which your eminence did me the honour to write to me of the 19th, doth oblige me to confirm you in the opinion, which you have, that the fleet of England can have no design against France : the season, the few troops that are to be embarked, and the little likelihood, that I can of any agreement or league with Spain, are reasons sufficient to destroy the distrust, which his majesty may have of the conduct of the lord protector towards him, and upon the different advices, which are given me, that this fleet is to touch near some port of Guienne or of Languedoc, to encourage the protestants of those parts, and to promote their risings. It is true, that the ministers of this state, and many other persons do speak of assisting them ; not that they have the least thought to do any such thing, or that they take the religion to heart ; but the rather to render themselves the more agreeable to the presbyterians of this country, and to give themselves a pretence of rupture, if their particular interest do oblige them to war, to render it the more plausible to the eyes of the world. But the protector would be obliged not to make appear any treaty with Spain ; and it is that, which will prevent to take any ground upon the refusal, which he hath made of the offers of that crown, which have not been unknown to me. And the ambassador did not conceal them, nor also to declare, that his master doth desire to have peace with France. He hath often explained himself to a person, whom he knoweth to be of my acquaintance ; and hath proceeded so far as to come to particulars, that the king his master would consent to the conditions, which were agreed upon at Munster ; and gave him a charge to speak to me about it. And some days after he was sent to get out of me, whether I had not writ it to the court : he hath also held the same discourse to me since the news is come of the disgrace of the duke of Guise. And all the likelihood will have it to be, that the power of England doth give to his king more jealousy, than France. I have not made much reflection upon these words, which may have in them more of affectation than sincerity ; and likewise I do report them now no otherwise than as a circumstance, which doth cause me to believe, that Spain and England have not yet taken their measures together, as to the design of assisting the province of Holland. It did pass for current for some days ; and the departure of my lord Beverning did give some likelihood of it ; but now that opinion is dissipated ; and it is not to be imagined, that that province, to avoid the domination of the prince of Orange, will expose themselves to that of the protector, whose conduct in regard of England and the proportions of coalition cannot but render it very suspected, and his interposing of dangerous consequence. The lord Nieuport, who is left here, and whom I see often, doth very much oppose these reports, and doth pretend, that his superiors would rather expose themselves to all extremities than to admit of the English. Besides the affairs of the united provinces are not yet in such a condition, that it is requisite they should take up arms. What doth concern the departure of the lord Beverning,

A. D. 1654. **B**everning, it did seem to be very sudden; yet he did communicate the same to me a month before he went away, and I did give notice thereof to monsr. Chanut; the pretence, which did appear then, was a marriage, but I was not so ready to believe it, but that I did presently conceive some jealousy of what he told me. His arrival at the Hague will soon dissipate all that hath been conceived of his return. In case the lord protector doth not intend to employ his fleet, neither against France, nor Holland, there remains nothing more to be said of it, but that it is designed for some enterprize upon the coast of Barbary or to America: the first would be easy enough, but 3000 soldiers are not considerable enough for a greater expedition: for the last, there is more probability of it, in regard the islands and plantations, which the English have in those parts, may supply them with men already accustomed to the air. The great advantages that may be made from thence, and other particulars, which you will have seen in my former letters, do cause most men to incline to this belief, which cannot be just, without that his majesty be made to feel the effects thereof by a speedy accommodation, it not being probable, that this state at the same time will imbroil with two crowns so powerful.

I have received the letter of your eminence to day, too late to speak to colonel Lyon; but I make no difficulty, but that the transport of the levy may be made in the month of February, it being offered to me.

Monfr. de Bordeaux to the count de Charost, governor of Calais.

London, 14 December, 1654. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

V. xxi. p. 110. **I** HAVE received your letter, which you did me the honour to write me; but I had none from the court, so that I must expect something extraordinary from thence. I can add nothing to the foregoing concerning my negotiation, only that here is spoken more than ever of my return into France, whereof I see a great deal of likelihood. It is said likewise that the fleet, for which the new levies have been made, hath changed their design, and is intended for Holland; but the affairs of that country do not seem to be embroiled enough to stand in need of any foreign assistance. There remaineth no other expedition to make then against France, but at present the season of the year is far spent. However it is good not to be negligent. Barriere is returned from Flanders.

Mr. John Aldworth to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

V. xxi. p. 130. **T**HE continuance of the trouble, I give yow to read my rude lines, I hope yow will be pleased to pardon. My last unto you was of the 8th current; and now I take the boldness on mee to give you notice, that yesterday I received advise from Tholloone, that the duke of Guize was arrived at the islands of Iris, about 5 leaugs from thence with his army, having made his decent at Castledemar, 8 miles from Naples; but the party, that was to joine with him, having received a generall pardon from the king of Spagne with strong places delivered them for their assurance, are joined with the forces of Naples, which consisting off 25000 hath forced the duke of Guize to retire aboard, and in the retreat his lieutenant generall was slayne. There is one gally and a man of warr perisht by fowle weather; the other 5 galleyes is not knowne what's become of them, having lost them in a storme 40 dayes past: generall Blake's being in Giblatore road and about the streights-mouth is confirmed by a Hollander, that is hear arrived since my last. With the tender of my most humble servise, I take leave and remayne,

Marfeillia, 1st December,
1654.

Your honnor's most humble servant,

JOHN ALDWORTH.

A letter of intelligence from Paris.

December 16. 1654. [N. S.]

SIR,

V. xxi. p. 132. **T**HE post of this day is not yet arrived, neither the letters of last friday are yet come; so that we hear nothing from thence, only yesterday arrived somebody from our ambassador there, who brings no comfortable news to us, but rather the contrary, that you be resolved to make war against France, and that your great army is a preparing for that

that purpose to land in Bretagne, for which (if true) we must prepare ourselves, and make peace with the Spaniard upon any terms, sooner than suffer you to come into our lands. We have nothing from general Blake's fleet, only that he has past the kingdom of Naples; where we know not. You may see by your letters from Rome, how the duke of Guise was entertained by the Spaniards there, but we do not believe he has lost so many as your friend writes; but thus, that I have seen in a letter from Naples dated the 18th of last month, that they fought two days and two nights at the fort of Annunciata, and in the end, that ours gained the said fort, though with loss; and that 150 men of ours were taken prisoners, among which he that commanded our forces then, called Marquis de Guizaias, an Italian, and were conveyed into Naples, where the people were like to stone them in the streets, were it not the governor hindered them. Many, that were of the French faction in the city of Naples, and kept hitherto intelligence in ours, are now discovered and committed; and those that discovered them I believe will have no quarter neither here nor there. The particularities of that business we expect from Rome by the next post. The duke of Guise was not in that fight himself at Castlemare, for there were but 22 of his ships. He has always with him ten Portugal men of war well furnished upon the charges of Portugal.

It is much admired here, why the protector's mother should be buried in Westminster, a place for the kings and those of the royal blood in time past.

The court sent orders to Genoa, that the million of livres, of which in my former, should be sent to the duke of Guise to Castlemare, with all other necessaries for his army. A galley from Genoa or two is to be sent with it.

We hear you look much after our commander Paul at sea, and that you sent orders to take him, if your forces can meet him. He has taken of late a great Spanish ship full of corn in the mediterranean seas.

Madam Chastillon is now much affected in court, being a great creature of Prince Condé; and it is thought by her intelligence with the said prince, she may bring him to a reconciliation with the court, at least many speak of it. So we expect here this day or tomorrow the marquis de Spinola, the ambassador from the common-wealth of Genoa, for which we prepare l'hostel de Nemours for his lodgings; and the king is to pay his expences for some days, as the custom of the kingdom: he has some gentlemen with him of high quality and family besides himself; and each of them shall have two lacquies and a page of other livery than that of the ambassador's. The ambassador himself will have ten staffers and six pages, a coach worth 12000 livres; and the horses 6000 livres; so he is to swagger in Paris.

The count of Harcourt is still at Philipsbourg, and the king sent him orders to come to court, and promises him some troops next campaign. I do not know, whether he will come or not. We are now reforming of many companies in our army, because they are weak; for now lately it was ordered, that every company must be of forty effective men, comprehending officers. We are sending them payment accordingly; but the strangers do complain, because they are put upon the French pay, being less than theirs hitherto; and for that I believe many will run away.

Here are many talking of the duke of Orleans's accommodation with the court, to which the higher ministers have contributed the best they can; but many think it will not prevail, by reason madamoiselle the duke's daughter is against it.

The second daughter of the said duke was sick last week, but now recovered; and I complain more of myself, that I am indisposed: however

I am,

Sir, your faithful

Servant.

A letter of intelligence from Paris.

16 December, 1654. [N. S.]

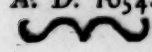
SIR,

THE post of this day friday last is not yet arrived, by which we expected much; V. xxi. p. 136. the post that arrived before informed this court, that your protector's second fleet with the land army is intended towards the isle of Retz, which France never feared more than at present. But many say our ambassador Bordeaux makes more of the matter than is *re vera* in it; because he cannot compass the peace there, which he often undertook; and if he cannot obtain it, he and his friends are undone, whose moneys he profusely spent in expectation of it. So if he cannot prevail, he will be your enemy. Since my former, your great friend has not seen cardinal Mazarin; his father's death occasioned his retirement, and now he and all his are in mourning: God send no worse news. An extraordinary

VOL. III.

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was

A. D. 1654.  was to come to him yesterday from London, with a transaction of the ambassador Bordeaux, of some part of his treaty in England with the protector, which displeaseth much the council of France, and by all that your great friend can find, that which England insists upon, will never be granted; and assure yourself it is so. These news, and the news of the duke of Guise trouble us much, with the fear we have also of general Blake's fleet. Which, besides my letter of occurrents, are the present news from,

Sir,

Yours.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Petit to mr. Augier.

Paris, the 16 December, 1654.

V. xxi. p. 140.

WE want the two last orders from England by an unsupportable disorder of the post-masters, each one being so much the more impatient thereof, that the common enemies believe that mr. de Neufville will return hither, and that there will be war between the two states.

A council sat four days ago upon those affairs. In their great hopes of a continuation of success, namely, towards Naples, many were of opinion to grant at least some reprisals unto the French merchants, and to give ear unto the proposals, Saint Malo, New Haven, and divers other ports made to arm ships at their own charges, in case they were suffered to take the English, confessing that the English will always be strongest in battle, but presuming themselves strong enough to incommode the trading of that common-wealth and the state itself, in obliging it to have always great forces at sea, which are exceeding chargeable, &c. Almost none but the chancellor, who acting the good servant (although he be the first provoker, who causeth the springs to play on this occasion against cardinal Mazarin, whom he and most part of the other ministers would willingly get rid of, by reason he swalloweth up all, and that scarce any are paid) none, I say, shewed more moderation than he; most part of the others saying it would be more honorable for them to declare war against England, than to have England declare it unto them.

The said mr. de Neufville's father is much troubled with all those alarms, as though his son was to bear all the blame thereof: Mr. de Servien, who is of a hot blood and fretful mind, having already told him, that it's pity the said mr. de Neufville his son was not sent to treat with people, that loved sweetmeats, by reason he would have thrived very well therein.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Petit to mr. Augier.

Paris, the 16 December, 1654.

V. xxi. p. 148.

SINCE my packet is gone, I hear from very good hands, that the Spaniards having fought with the duke of Guise between Naples and Castlemare, the French have been wholly defeated; the marquis of Plessis Belliere slain upon the place, and the duke of Guise narrowly escap'd in a vessel. Mr. Fouquet, attorney general of this parliament, comes from telling it to one of my friends, and that this deadly blow is come by a bark arrived at Toulon; in consequence whereof the particulars above said have been sent to this court by an express from the count of Carles.

You will be pleased to send this unto mr. secretary Thurloe, unto whom I have not the time to write it in particular.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Augier's secretary.

Paris, the 16 December, 1654.

V. xxi. p. 144.

THIS court doth still rejoice at the facilities the duke of Guise hath found at Naples, cardinal Mazarin taking it to be of such good presage, that he makes himself strong of that enterprize, so that it is thought the said duke will be well seconded; and that if he can but get some troops of horse, he will give much trouble and exercise unto the Spaniards. His design was to land towards la Puglia, that he might take up all the horse, that he should find there, by force or by money, but the time has hindered it: and as the pope will in no manner suffer the Barbarinis to send him any by the ecclesiastical territories, it is likely, that this season, in which it is very uneasy to send him any by sea, will limit his victory to some little progress, unless he be favoured by the insurrection of discontented, which (as are pretended) are to join him in great number. We hear nevertheless by the last letters from Rome, that to shew his vigour and resolution, he had caused his troops to march against

against the Tower called Annunciata, which they had taken without much loss; but that thinking afterwards to attempt upon that of del Greco, they had been repulsed with the loss of above 150 men, and one of their commanders taken; namely the marquis Gonzage, who being a Neopolitan, would have been beheaded, if the French had not taken another Spanish officer, whom they would have used alike. The same letters bear, that there was a talk, but uncertain, that some division having been found in the city of Salerno near Castello di Mare, the disorder was come so far, as to call the said duke thereunto; whereupon its gloss'd, that he hath had the victory.

Cardinal de Retz parted from Florence the 1st past, still incommoded with the fall upon the shoulder; there being no certain news of his arrival at Rome, where he went directly.

Mr. de Lionne sent by the king, hath also hastened to Rome, and visited the other princes of Italy; which these gentlemen do jangle, while to please the pope and make him see how they are still his partners, they publish, that they are going to have war with England.

The duke of Longueville is arrived in this city to make his court; and the duke of Grammont is expected here within seven or eight days coming from Bayonne. Nothing is now spoken of the conspiracy discovered at Bourdeaux, where the parliament doth peaceably discharge its functions.

I come from seeing other letters from Rome, which bring, that the Spanish fleet having approached that of France near Castello di Mare, they had shot above one thousand cannon shots at one another, without coming to any fight, whereof we expect the event.

Monfr. de Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to his father.

17 December 1654. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

THE post not being yet arrived, and my negotiation being at the same pass mentioned V. xxi. p. 166. in my foregoing letter, I have nothing to write to the court; only you may assure them, that I do not discontinue to press an answer to my last discourse; but without any effect, the secretary putting me off from day to day, yea without any pretence. And on the other hand it is said, as if my negotiation were not yet at an end; so that I fear we shall be brought to extremities. You will have seen what I have writ to the court, to dispose them to release, and to yield to some of the points that remain undecided.

It is not, that, if this state had a desire of an accommodation, it would not make half of the way, whereas only it doth remain firm upon all the difficulties, yea without any reason, according to the opinion of my commissioners themselves; but also it will not give me their last resolution; which doth cause me to believe, that if I should acquiesce, they would find some other obstacle to delay me.

They begin now to speak again of the voyage for America, and to hasten their embarking, all the officers and soldiers being commanded to go on board the fleet the 20th of this month.

You may signify to his eminence, that the colonel, with whom I treated for the transport of 2000 Scotchmen, doth pretend to have received within these two days permission to execute his treaty; so that they want nothing but to send me the orders to finish that business, which they do seem to take to heart. It is not but in the pursuit thereof this permission may be recalled; but the king having caution in Paris for the money that is advanced, will run no hazard.

General Disbrowe to secretary Thurloe.

Portsmouth, 7 December, 1654.

SIR,

I HAVE perused the instructions, and considered them as fully as my little time would V. xxi. p. 174. permitt, and have little to alter or adde, but what is inserted in them, with this enclosed paper, which I leave to your judgement to adde, the same seeming convenient to me.

Enclosed is a list of the whole fleet, as you desire, to be inserted in the first article of general Penne's instructions. I also offer, that major generall Heane and vice-admirall Goodson may be added as commissioners to the whole affaire: else in case of the death of both or either of the generalls, they will not be in a capacity fully to act as commander in chiefe. I have thought fitt for the advantage of the service to adde captaine Edward Blagge as a commissioner on the first squadron.

You may see what my thoughts are as to the instructions, by casting your eye over them, where you will finde some few scribbles of mine. That, which concernes money, I cannot
for

A. D. 1654. *W* for present ascertaine any thing more than 8000 l. intended as contingencies for the fleet: the mony for the land-forces must be what is left of that, which is ordered for them. To what value the letters of credit runne, I know not, and therefore can say little to it; only suppose 8000 l. credit may be enough; and they limited to charge by exchange, not exceeding 10000 l.

Sir, we are still labouring here to effect what lyes under our charge, and were yesterday at Chichester to passe a muster on colonell Buller's regiment, which is there; and the like shall be done to other regiments, when I understand where they are.

The first squadron of ships are quite ready, and doe not onely attend the receaving of the souldiers aboard, whose readinesse through want of officers doth no way answer my desire; there being but two regiments, viz. Major generall Heane's, and colonell Buller's yet that I heare of come, and very few officers with them; which is no small trouble to me, considering the winde is now faire.

The remainder of the fleet are neer ready, the greatest want being water-caske, which cometh from London; and I shall againe minde the commissioners of the admiralty, that it may withall possible speed hast hither. Pray tender my very humble service unto his highnesse, unto whom I have not time to write, neither have more to offer than what I trouble you withall. I remaine

Your very affectionate

Ther is no thoughts of Capt.
Hatfell's beinge engaged for
the present.

friend and servant,

JOHN DISBROWE.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

V.xxi. p.192. *Y*esterday cam into this road 8 sail of French men of warr, part of the fleet that was before Naples; and this morning cam in another. 'Tis probable in 24 howers more the rest may be here. Som say they com hether for provisions, having spent al theyr store at Naples; but others say (and I am of the sam opinion) that they fear they shal meet general Blak's fleet before they get Tollon. The duke of Guis commands here in chief, but his ship is not yet com in. I cannot believ this prince will receiv them into port, knowing that our fleet looks out for them. This week we hav heard nothing of generall Blake: if he had not stayd at the Streits-mouth, but com directly for Italy, he had found all the French fleet in a pownd in Naples-bay, wher he might hav don what he woud with 'um, but al wil be for the best.

I writ you in my last that the duke of Savoy was to marry the cardinal Mazzarin's neece; upon which marriage the duke of Savoy should hav al thos townes and castels restored him, which ar ether held by the French or Spanyard in his country; and besyds that the said cardinall wil undertak to restore Geneva to the subjection of the sayd duke; which altho' I do not believ, yet it is my duty to acquaint you herwith, being of great import to the protestant party. I am,

Leghorn, 18 Decem. 1654. [N. S.]

Honourable sir,

your most faithful servant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

The king of France to the protector.

Paris, 18 December, 1654. [N. S.]

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

*L'*Esperance nous estant presque passé de pouvoir establir entre cette monarchie & vostre republique & royaumes d'Angleterre, Escoffe, & Irlande la parfaite intelligence, que nous avions desirée, dont la suite eust donné lieu a un commerce florissant a l'avantage des deux estats, & n'ayant obmis aucune diligence, qui ait pu dependre de nous, pour avancer un si grand bien, que nous avons recherché avec plus de presse, qu'il ne pouvoit estre creu, que nous ferons, veu les choses, qui avoient esté faites au dammage de nos subjects, sans y pouvoir reussir, & qui vraysemblablement procede de quelques considerations particulieres, qui sont jugées par vous utiles a vos peuples; nous, pour ne demeurer pas plus long tems exposé a des incertitudes, ni meme laisser en l'opinion du monde, que ce que nous faisons, du zele du bien public, put proceder du quelque autre motif, qui seroit receu au prejudice de nostre reputation, avons ordonné au sieur de Bordeaux, de prendre vostre audience pour vous donner une information exacte de la conduite qu'il a tenue, de la quelle vous reconnoistrez quelles estoient nos intentions a vostre endroit; & ensuite de se retirer, si ce n'est que par vos prudences vous preniez des resolutions & de temperaments, qui nous puissent donner de la satisfaction raisonnable, que nous nous en sommes deu promettre, vous laissant

laissant persuader d'une verité, qui fait, que toutes les fois que vous recherchez ce qui vous fera utile & glorieux, par l'amitie, qui demeurera estable entre les estats, a la richesse qu'en acquereront les subjects au moyen d'un commerce tel qu'il peut estre reglé, vous nous trouverez tres disposés d'y entendre, & aux assurances, qu'il vous donnera, que nous souhaitons, que vos affaires prosperent, & que Dieu vous ait en sa sainte & digne garde.

Vostre bon ami & confederé,

LOUIS.

A letter to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Paris, 18 December, 1654. [N. S.]

SIR,

WE had yesterday certain intelligence, that the d. of Guise was forced to quit Italy, V.xi. p.184. and that mr. d'Plessis Belliere (who advanced with 25 officers) was slain. This loss is very considerable, for as much as he was a very serviceable man, and one who would not easily yield the buckler to any man for to be marshal of France. I may not unfitly compare this expedition to that of the Crusades of old; for although these had for their design, the re-establishment of the faith in sacred places, and those, a conquest and vain-glory; yet notwithstanding their success was much alike: and indeed it is impossible it should be otherwise, they being at so great a distance from those places, which should afford them recruits of men and monies. And so much for this subject.

Mr. Edward Missenden to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

I Thought it my duty and service, at your entrance into that great *bonis et onus* of protection and government, after my humble congratulation, to present your highnes with some observation of the transactions in Holland and Brabant, under the king of Spaigne and the Hollanders also; and therewith I sent your highnes also charts or maps of the maritime parts of those provinces, for your highnes service; presented, as I remember, by mr. Scobell, clerk of the council of state, upon the conclusion of the treaty with Holland. V.xxi. p.176.

That the Hollanders have blocked up the river of Antwerp called the Scheld, to hinder the English cloth trade, and the famous commerce of the merchants adventurers of England in the cloth trade thereof; which is the fairest flower in the garden of England. Whereby they have ruined Antwerp, which was honoured with the name and honour of *totius Europæ emporium*, and lifted up Amsterdam to the pride and heighth that now it hath.

I presented also the meanes, whereby the said river might be opened; either in a faire way by your treaty with Holland, or in a more rough way, by force, by the king of Spaigne, assisted by your power, as is usual with confederate princes.

That having spent a *decennium* here in Holland in the government of the merchants adventurers, I observed a great tax or imposition laid upon our cloth trade there, of 24 s. upon a long cloth; which, after a long dispute, we could not get off. I thought it a fit work for our treaty at home, to recant the same, with the meanes they have found out to set up draperies of their owne, by getting of wolles and fullers earth out of England, and Spanish wolles first brought out of Spaigne into England, and thence into Holland; so that now their draperies check ours: which they ease also with the freedome of imposition, whilst they press and oppose our English cloth, so that our famous English cloth-trade is there almost lost.

That whereas the cry of the Amboina bloodshed of our nation is gone up to heaven, and no meanes of vindication thereof on earth by any power in the East India company; I thought it also my duty to your highnes to present you with a service I did therein in the Haghe, when the busines was committed to me, to require justice therein of the states general. But finding them and their merchants to speake with one voice in defence of that bloody fact, I prepared a true narrative and series of the whole busines, to present to the most learned lawyers of Holland, for their advice in point of law, as a *species facti et juris*, in use here, but shadowed it in other names: as for the English and Dutch companies trading to the East Indies, I put, *mutatis mutandis*, the Venetians and Marcellians, and the controversy to be in Cicely: but *in terminis* I kept close all that was said, and done, and suffered in that bloody scene from the first to the last; whereby their owne professors and counsellors condemned their owne nation unawares.

A. D. 1654. This peece was put in the hands of Mr. secretary Thurloe, when he served clerk of the council of state; which I sent by the then deputy of the East Indie company Mr. Mechold since deceased.

I hope there was good use made thereof, tho' I never received an answer, nor encouragement, nor soe much as my charges for lawyers fees, and length of time, study, and labour, preferring the service of my country to all other respects in the world, according to that of the orator, *chari sunt parentes, chari liberi, amici chari, sed omnes omnium charitates una patria complexa est.* So I humbly take leave, and rest here ready to serve your highnes and my country.

From the Haghe in Holland,
Decemb. 18. 1654. stylo
loci.

Your highnes humble and
faithfull servant,
EDW. MISSENDEN.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

MONSIEUR,

V. xxi. p. 188.

LE sieur Beverning en fin s'est rendu visible le 15, estant alors la premiere fois comparu dans l'assemblée des estats generaux. Il a decliné de faire rapport, disant n'estre pas venu faire rapport; ains pour ses affaires particuliers; & ne pouvoir pas aussi le faire, d'autant qu'il le faut faire conjointement, ayant en cela l'exemple du sieur Jongstal, qui meme requis, ne l'a pas fait. Aussi il ne pas de la charge de tresorier general a luy conferée; ny pour remercier l'estat, ny pour offrir a faire le serment, ny pour fair sceller la commission: tout cela de peur qu'on ne l'oblige a rendre raison de l'acte de seclusion. Aussi le president est si discret de ne le presser ny sommer pas a faire rapport.

Toutefois par forme de discours a conté beaucoup; voire la meme chose, qu'il auroit dit dans son rapport, dit que pour achever le traité Anglo-Francois ne manquoit que 1. la praeſeance a signer dans les deux instruments, que la France pretendoit. 2. touchant la tolerance des rebelles futurs. Le point des rebelles presents estant deja ajuste, que le traité de marine entre l'Angleterre et cest estat n'attendoit, qu'apres la conclusion du sus dit traité Anglo-Gallois. Il dit, qu'il y a bonne harmonie & concorde entre le protecteur & le parlement; que le protecteur est *summus dissimulandi artifex* (de ce met se servoit il) parlant de tout chose sans alteration & egaleme. Il a parle haut de la force & grandeur des flottes sorties & a sortir sous Blake & Pen; & combien on cache leurs dessein: qu'une troupe de femmes des matelots allant sur cette flotte avoient couru apres le protecteur, desirants favoir, ou leurs maris alloient: que le protecteur avoit dit, les ambassadeurs de Spaigne & de France me donneroient facilement chacun une million pour me dire cela. Le sieur Beverning neantmoins estoit d'opinion, que ces flottes n'estoient nullement destinees contre la France. Mais de tout cela n'a este rien signé dans les notules, si qu'en effect ce n'est pas un rapport. Et ny le president ny pas un de l'assemblée ne luy a rien dit de la seclusion. Cependant il ira une fois (comme l'on presume) vers Amsterdam voir sa maitresse; item vers Goude: puis pendra son temps pour faire sceller sa commission; & pour faire le serment, & puis se lailra introduire: il dit estre passé par la Zeland, sans que personne luy aye rien dit.

L'assemblée de Hollande se va separer aveq cette semaine, & malaisement reviendra devant Februrier; & outre quelques resolutions, qu'aures desja veu, je ne voy pas grand resultat d'leur assemblée: ils relevent bien souvent des choses; mais ce sont plustost de inclinations que des effects: la redresse des finances & la paix sont leurs principaux objects.

Par la lettre du roy de Pologne, et par la proposition de son resident, on voit, que le concept d'alliance, qu'il emportoit d'icy, il y aura bientost un an, est provenu d'icy, pour tant plus faire bruit contre l'Angleterre: mais ceste paix estant finie, je pense que l'alliance s'endormira, comme de mesme s'endort derechef l'alliance aveq l'France.

Le Traité a Staden est achevé; les deputes de cest estat estoient desja le 12 de ce mois a Delmenhorst, retournant vers icy: les sommaires du traité verres dans la gazette d'Amsterdam du 15 de ce mois.

Icy est decrechef le sieur Kemping pour les affaires de Malta: l'ambassadeur de France a ordre de son roy pour le seconder; mais il n'a garde de le pousser chaudement, voire il n'a pas une fois demandé audience publique la dessus.

Les deputes de Campen & Zwol (en absence de Twent & Deventer) ont fait notuler une sorte de protestation; declarants nulles les lettres, qui sont venues de Deventer, sur le nom des estats d'Overysfel assemblées a Deventer.

On me dit, que Mess. de Hollande feront nouvelle proposition pour la combination des compaignes, et pour la cassation d'aucunes de cavallerie.

18 December 1654. [N. S.]

Brienne

Brienne to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

SIR,

AS the matter was debating touching what should have been written to you concerning the resolution, which was made, which also you might have conjectured from my two last letters, yours of the 7th and 13th of this instant were received; the first whereof instead of retarding the post, hastened his departure; the other hindered the same. A. D. 1654.
V.xxi. p. 206.

The discourse, which you had with the lord protector, is here taken very well; there being not the least of those things omitted, which had been hinted to you in several letters to mention. If you judge it needful, you shall have letters of credence sent you for the lord protector; but on the other side they shall be spared, if you think it needless to have credentials, for those things, which you shall propose to them, which his majesty will be always inclinable to hearken to (in the same propositions, that he had proposed) when the same shall be desired.

Concerning the design of the fleet, as that it was intended against us, we believe it too weak to give a jealousy to France.

You will please to give me leave to congratulate your great applause in reference to that your discourse.

May it please you to put an inscription and subscription to that letter, which the king wrote unto the protector, as you shall see good.

You will receive light concerning his majesty's intentions, the beginning of the last week.

19 December 1654. [N. S.]

Upon the resumption.

THAT the dispatches of the commission of the lord Beverning for the office of treasurer general, and for swearing him into the said commission, shall be suspended, till to the time, that he and the other ambassadors in England, have made a report of their negotiations, and by their transactions there have given satisfaction to the provinces. V. xxi. p. 198.

Extract of the secret register of the states general.

Sabbathi, 19 December, 1654. [N. S.]

THE deputies in ordinary of the provinces of Holland and Westfriesland, after the reading of the here above-mentioned pretended conclusum, and before the resumption thereof was deliberated upon, have earnestly desired, and endeavoured by all imaginable reasons and motives, to induce and persuade the deputies of the other provinces, to put off, or at least to delay the same, till this affair was taken by them into further consideration, and made proposals for an accommodation in order to reconcile the dissenting provinces, and to give them all reasonable satisfaction; and finding that four provinces persist on their former advice, and that the said pretended conclusum should not be altered, denying to the said deputies of Holland, against reason and justice, the required time and delay, and would not agree to their proposal, they, by a special command of their masters, assembled in a state-convocation, have declared, and by these presents do declare, that they deem the said pretended resolution, the consequences thereof, and the persisting therein, as taken against the usual, due, and legal order and form of the government, and consequently labouring under a notorious illegality and injustice, to be lawless, void, and of no force. Whereupon the provinces have demanded a copy of the said record, which is granted them hereby. V. xxi. p. 200.

From Heinius, the Dutch resident in Sweden.

MY LORD,

THE day before yesterday I received from their high mightinesses the writings, which are necessary for the exercising the provisional character of resident of the united Netherlands at this court, for which favour I have endeavoured to show myself grateful to their high mightinesses by the inclosed letter, which, I humbly beg of you, may be presented by your lordship to their high mightinesses by the first opportunity, thanking your lordship in particular, for the pains you have been pleased to take, in dispatching the said papers and commission, wishing only that I had received the same a little sooner, in order V. xxi. p. 242.

A. D. 1654.

order to have been enabled to give their high mightinesses a specimen of my devotion to their services, touching the Bremen affairs; though I do not question, but there have been weighty reasons, which have induced their high mightinesses to delay the sending of the said papers. In the mean while, I have not been deficient to serve my lord Van-Beuningen during his stay at Staden with weekly advices, since I had not the honour to know the two other gentlemen, and did not think adviseable to act as a publick minister, without being qualified for it. These treaties being now ended, my commission ceases likewise, and consequently I shall not be able but with great difficulty to obtain an audience of his majesty, which is denied me till next week, because his majesty doth find himself at present out of order; wherefore I shall keep my commission back as much as possible, and make use only of my credentials here at court, wherein the time of my commission is not expressly mentioned. I am in want of the like credentials, to the two queens, the foreign ministers that reside here, the ambassadors of France and Denmark, as also to the five first senators, together with an instruction, to regulate myself accordingly all which I leave to the wise directions and to the helping hand of your lordship, obliging myself, when opportunity serves, to shew myself grateful for the same, and to serve you as far as I am able; to shew the same, I make from this time a beginning to wait on you by my letters, which I will do, as often as any thing shall happen here, which may not be trusted to the publick pen.

For the present, I cannot observe my duty, in that respect, since I am hindred from going out to take an information of state affairs, till the time, when I shall have had my audience of his majesty.

The approaching of the Russians towards the Swedish frontiers of Livonia and Ingria doth give no small suspicion to the court, and there are a great many commissions delivered to raise troops in Germany and other parts, although the Russians protest in the highest degree to have the greatest friendship for this crown.

Wherewith, &c.

My lord, &c.

Stockholm, December 19, 1654.

(sign'd)

N. HEINSIUS.

The protector's commission to general Venables.

V.xxi.p.118.

Oliver lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the dominions thereto belonging, to our trusty and well-beloved Robert Venables, general and commander in chief of our army and forces to be sent into, or raised in America.

WHEREAS we are resolved, through the blessing of God, to send an army into America, for securing and increasing the interest of this commonwealth in those parts, and for opposing, weakening, and destroying that of the Spaniards, who under a pretence of the pope's donation claims all that part of the world, as belonging unto him, and thereupon hath not only exercised inhuman cruelties upon the natives, and prohibited all other nations to have any trade, commerce, or correspondence with those parts; but hath, contrary to the laws of all nations, by force of arms, expelled the people of these islands from several places in America, whereof they were the rightful possessors, destroying, and murdering many of their men, and leading others into captivity; and doth still continue all manner of acts of hostility upon us, and the people aforesaid in those parts, as against open and professed enemies; thereby threatening the ruin and destruction of all the English plantations in those parts, when he shall have opportunity for the same. And we having by advice of our council raised and levied forces here in England, to be sent into the parts aforesaid, and intending also, that other forces shall be raised in the Barbadoes and other Caribbee islands and places there, to be joined unto them; and reposing trust and confidence in your faithfulness, ability, courage, conduct and circumspection, we have constituted and appointed, and do by these presents constitute and appoint you the said general Venables, commander in chief under us of the army and forces, raised or to be raised by authority from us, for the end and service aforesaid; giving and granting unto you full power and authority to rule, govern, command, dispose, and imploy the said army and forces, and every part thereof, and all officers and others whatsoever, of and belonging to the same, in, for, or about all defences, offences, executions, and other military and hostile arts and services; and to lead and conduct the said army and forces, or any part thereof, against the king of Spain, his people, and subjects, in any part of America, and all others whomsoever, who shall aid or assist him or them there, or shall be enemies or rebels to us and this commonwealth in those parts; and them to pursue, invade, resist, kill,

kill, and destroy by all means whatsoever; and also to command all garrisons, forts, castles, and towns, within the said parts of America, which are already garrisoned and fortified to our use, or shall be hereafter garrisoned and fortified; and also full power and authority to assign and grant commissions to all such commanders, officers, and governors of the said army, forces, and garrisons, as shall be thought necessary and requisite for the command and government of the same; and also full power and authority to command the several and respective governors of the islands of Barbadoes, Bermudas, Antegoa, and other the Caribbee islands, and of all other English plantations in America; and all other officers and ministers whatsoever in the said islands and places; and also full power and authority to execute, or cause to be executed martial law, according to the cause and customs of war, and according to the laws and ordinances of war upon or against any person or persons offending against any of the said laws, or ordinances of war; and also full power and authority from time to time by yourself, or others, deputed and authorised by you, to take up and use such carriages, draughts, boats, and other vessels, as in your discretion shall be thought needful for the conveying and conducting of the said army and forces, or any part thereof or for bringing or carrying ordnance, artillery, ammunition, victuals, or any provisions, or utensils of war, necessary or requisite for the same army, or forces, or any part thereof, to or from any place or places, in order to the said service; and also full power and authority to do and execute all other things incident and belonging to the place of a commander in chief of an army, and which shall be necessary and requisite for the carrying on and accomplishment of the premises; and all commanders, officers, and soldiers of the army, forces, and garrisons, are hereby required to obey you as their commander in chief, according to the discipline of war; and likewise the governors, officers, and ministers of the said several islands and plantations, and all other officers and persons whatsoever in the parts aforesaid, are hereby required to obey you, and to be aiding and assisting to you in their respective places, for the ends and purposes aforesaid: and you are in the prosecution and execution of all and singular the premises, to observe and follow all such instructions, orders, and directions, as you shall herewith or from time to time hereafter receive from us. And for the premises these presents shall be your warrant. In witness whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patents. Witness ourself at Westminster, the 9th day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and fifty four.

Indors'd by secretary Thurloe,
4 Decemb. 1654.

This commission was read in the counsell, and past.

Present,

Lord president,	Col. Mountagu,
Lord Lambert,	Mr. Strickland,
Col. Fiennes,	Sir Ch. Wolsey,
Col. Sydenham,	Col. Mackworth.
Col. Jones,	

Ordered, that his highness be advised to give this commission to general Venables.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to count Brienne, secretary of State in France.

MONSIEUR,

J'E n'ay rien a escire de ma negotiation, si ce n'est, que monsieur le protecteur ne me rend aucune response; que ses ministres la remettent a des termes indefinis, sans donner aucune esperance de rien changer aux conditions, qu'il nous propose; & que meme par le discours, qu'a tenu aujourd'hui un des officiers du Conseil en quelque facon interesse a l'acomodement, par la part, qu'il prend aux debtes de Constantinople, il paroist, que les difficultes, qui semblent nous arrester, ne sont pas les seules causes de tant de remises; beaucoup des considerations particulieres & domestiques y peuvent contribuer; mais le plus vray-semblable est l'interest, qu'a le protecteur de donner un amusement a ses troupes, & a soy un pretexte d'entretenir une armee. Le vaisseau, qu'a lassé aller. Mr. de Guise chargé de fort riches marchandises est arrivé; & les interessees ont publié cette grace; mais elle ne touche guere ce gouvernement. Et je crois, que si sa majesté jugeoit a propos de surseoir une declaration de guerre, qu'il n'aura grand inconvenient d'accorder de lettres des reprefailles. J'attendray les ordres, qui vostre dernière lettre me fait esperer, & feray tout ce qu'il me sera possible devant que venir a l'extremité.

21 December, 1654. [N. S.]

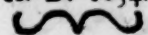
VOL. III.

F

Bordeaux

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

A. D. 1654.



Bordeaux to count Charost.

MONSIEUR,

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

J'AY receu les deux lettres, qu'il vous a plu de m'escire le 16^{me} & 19^{me} de ce mois. Elles me font paroistre quelque impatience de la fin de vostre accommodement. J'avoüe, qu'elle est bien fondée, puisqu'en cas de rupture vous aurez a supporter le principal chocque de la guerre; & que meme dans l'estat ou nous sommes, vous n'estez pas moins incertain de vostre condition, que je le suis de la mienne.

Il ne se peut encore rien dire du traité, si non que monsieur le protecteur se lasse moins de me remettre, que moy de l'attendre. Il faudra en fin prendre congé de luy. Tout Londres est persuadé, que je suivray ce dernier party; & cette opinion publique n'est pas sans fondement: quoy que je me puisse estre sans beaucoup de regret d'avoir si mal employé mon temps, mon argent, & mes soings, neantmoins j'aime encore mieux venir a cette extremite, que de trainer plus long temps. Nonobstant ce procedé du protecteur, on ne laisse pas de parler de l'America, & de presser le depart de la flotte. Les soldats se doivent embarquer cette semaine, & a juger par leur nombre, les preparatifs, & les advis publics & particuliers, il semble que la France n'a rien a craindre de cet armée, si ce n'est qu'elle allat chercher Mr. de Guise. Les bruits courent, & meme l'ambassadeur d'Espagne assure, que Blake est arrivé a Majorque, & qu'il s'est joint avec la flotte de son maistre, sans neantmoins dire que ce soit pour combattre ensemble. Il publie aussy que Mr. de Guise a receu quelque eschec.

21 Decemb. 1654. [N. S.]

The lord deputy and council of Ireland to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

V. xxi. p. 226.

WE have received a petition for Sir Brice Cockeran, with your highnes recommendation thereupon, that wee should give order to the commissioner for accompts to state the petitioner's accompts for service in Ireland. In obedience whereunto wee have referred the said petition and recommendation to those commissioners, forthwith to proceed to state the petitioner's arrears according to the rules and instructions given them, or in case of obstruction, to certify the same to us; who have returned, that by the proviso in the act of parliament of 25 Aug. 1652, all such as have revolted from the parliament, and returned to the enemies thereof (which Sir Brice Cockeran confesseth to have done at Muscledor) are judged incapable of arrears. Upon consideration whereof, and that your highnes's order in this case is not positive, wee have thought it our duty humbly to represent to your highnes, that the stating this arrear by us may be a president to others, which wee are not willing to doe without your highnes command; and therefore humbly desire to know what marke of favour your highnesse intends him, that wee may accordingly proceed to his satisfaction, being ready to observe your highnesse's orders, as becometh

Your highnes most faithfull humble servants,

Dublin 11 December 1654.

Charles Fleetwood, Rob. Goodwin,
Miles Corbett, Math. Thomlinson,

Secretary Thurloe to lord Rivers.

MY LORD,

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

SIR John Litcott about 16 or 17 yeares since did lend unto your father 500 l. upon his owne and the bond of two other persons therein named. Sir John soone after died, and left his lady his executrix, who haveinge often desired payment of the money, but receiveinge neither principal or interest, shee put the bond in suite, and had judgment of 1000 l. against my lord your father; but in respect of the constant promises he made of speedy payment, my lady never tooke execution upon that judgment; soe that it remeynes a debt yet. And although shee did exhibit her petition to the judges of Salters-hall before the death of your lordship's father, and hath since beene encouraged to make her addressse to the parliament for to be releived in a busines, wherein shee is soe great a sufferer, and whereof the supream power hath beene pleased already to take notice, and to interpose therein; yet before she would do any thinge of that nature, or ought else that might have trouble in it to your lordship, not being willinge to engage herself in the inquirye into the settlement of her estate, nor make use of any other meanes, which she may have good opportunity for at this tyme; we thought ourselves obliged to give unto you this account of this

this busines, haveinge confidence, that your lordship will, as this case is, give speedy order A. D. 1654.
for the payment of the money, which is due upon that bond and judgment afore sayd; the want whereof hitherto hath put my lady to many inconveniencys. And this I doe earnestly desire from your lordship, whereby you will doe what is just and honourable in itself, and lay a very great obligation upon me, which I shall be ready upon all occasions to acknowledge, as becometh

21 December 1654.

Your lordship's most humble servant.

A letter of intelligence.

Cologne, 22 December 1654. [N. S.]

SIR,

YOUR's by this post I received, by which it is clear to me, that all is quiet in England, V. xxi. p. 248.
and no considerable party with R. C. in Scotland; but here are many, that will not believe it, but swear the contrary, and produce (I suppose) letters of their own making for it. But I presume, R. C. and some near him know all you write to be true, though they will not make shew of it. But by another instrument I spread amongst the natives of this country the truth and credit given to it, to the great discontentment of the cavaliers. For my part, now I come not near them; neither dare I, for the reasons I writ to you formerly; but I have a friend, who is near them, and one of them, who tells me what he knows. After this post you may receive one letter more from me, or two at most; by which time I hope you will remind me, and send a little money to bring me to Flanders, from whence I came.

Of news here is nothing almost at present. R. C. goes a hunting every day, the weather being favourable. He was yesterday with a few in company from morning till three of the clock in the afternoon a hunting, and went about twelve English miles; but killed one hare all the time.

Since my last Wilmot received 2000 guilders more from the Elector of Saxony, so that they spend as fast as they can get, but reserve what France allows them.

The duke of Gloucester and Ormond are daily expected here, and an account of Ormond's other negotiations in Paris, besides that of Gloucester, as I writ before.

Taafe and Hyde do visit the Nuncio here very often. Yesterday the said Hyde desired earnestly the Nuncio his title, which was brought to him by Mr. Reynolds; by the next I shall endeavour to learn what their design is, and give you an exact account of it. When R. C. last week received letters from Paris of the defeat given to the duke of Guise in Naples; it were better (said he) for Mazarine to give me that army, when of him I desire them, and undertook to do more service with them in England than Guise should in Italy for the crown of France. But (said he) God grant Mazarin shall be as good as his word in what else he promised. *Hec ille.* You may perceive by this truth in my former letters, and that succours are promised against the next season, as Ormond will bring account of. I assure you, *movent omnem lapidem ad habendam tantam pecuniarum summam, quantam sperant sufficere ad emendas nares pro transportatione considerabilis exercitus* into England or Scotland this next season; of which there will be at least 5000 Irish besides Germans, Lorainers, and French; and R. C. will be at the head of them. I can confirm to you, that this is their design, principally since that the divisions and risings they expected in England fail. Of the great design of Ormond nothing is lately said, for the reasons you had in my former letters. The emperor is making up an army *de novo*; so are all the princes of Germany: all the world is made up of an opinion, that next summer will be a hot one in Germany; for all these armies must not be idle; but what their work shall be, I believe they know not yet firmly themselves, but all in fear one of another, and some fear of the Swedes. Others think, but not with grounds that I can see, that the queen Christina of Sweden has some projects, whose execution will appear in this sphere. I know no more of it at present, nor else, but that I am always,

Sir, your's.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

MONSIEUR,

PAR ma derniere aures eu et veu une proposition, comment fust surse & suspendue V. xxi. p. 214.
la commission du sieur Beverning, pour la charge de tresorier general. Lendemain par pluralité des voix cest affaire fust conclue en la façon cy jointe, No. I.

royalists

Et ces 145 n'en demeureront, point la; s'ils peuvent; ains meme passeront outre a faire revoquer aussy le sieur Nieuport, & obliger les 3 ambassadeurs ensemble a rendre raison

A. D. 1654. raison de l'acte de *seclusion*. Mais la Hollande a prins fort serieusement a procedure:
royalists

comme si les 145 vouloient jetter une secunde fois l'estat en guerre contre l'Angleterre, chose de quoy Zeelande meme aussy est fort abhorrent & timide.

Et cette semaine presidera un autre province. Et j'entens que la Hollande a resolu, encore avant la separation de declarer que le sieur Beverning ne soit pas tenu de rendre raison de seclusion: ains que la province de Hollande entrevient pour luy & defendra l'affaire
royalists

pour luy: & si 145 veulent opiniastrer, je voy que la Hollande se cabrera aussy, &
royalists

se verra une disordre aussy aspre que jamais. Mais je croy que 145 lascheront le pied;
Grave William

& que 149 mesme ne voudra pas qu'on mette l'estat en combustion.

Ayant escrit cecy, la resumption s'est fait; la susdite conclusion a esté plus confirmée par l'adveu de ceux de Geldre & de Zelande. Utrecht seule (le sieur Vander Hoolck estant seul present) a declarée simplement, de n'estre pas instruite sur cette conclusion.

Si les sieurs de Renswoude & d'Amerongen eussent esté presents, tout l'Utrecht auroit esté avec les autres. Bref la Hollande unique a maintenu le sieur Beverning; ou bien a dite, que leurs principaux deliberoient; & aujourd'huy feroient annoter une protestation a l'encontre.

Le sieur Beverning, quoy qu'estant a la Haye, n'a pas esté present a l'assemblée. Si qu'il se trouve fort reculé en ses desseings: croyant avoir la charge de grand tresorier une riche femme ensemble; & l'on assure que la maitresse ne le veut pas avoir sans la dite charge. Cependant le sieur Beverning, quant a la chose meme (la seclusion) est assés assuré; car la Hollande a promis l'indemnir, & entrevenir pour luy.

Et il declare ne se foucher pas de la dite charge, & un grand homme (un 173) dit, il
the well affected of Holland
prince of Orange

fera plus de mal a 148, demeurant a Goude, que s'il estoit tresorier.

Cependant si les provinces tiennent ce pied, elles feront aussy rappeler le sieur Nieupoort, en permettant toutefois, qu'un autre ambassadeur ordinaire aille.

Veritablement le sieur Beverning a un peu precipité son affaire, car s'il eust prins l'occasion de venir dans le presidentiat de Hollande, ou de Zelande, *res fuisset in salvo*, mais, Zealand

kinderen die minnen hebben geen sinen. Et ceux de 106 auroient volontiers favorisé le sieur Beverning, mais *metu Judeorum* (*populi Zelandici*) n'ont osé.

Le prince Maurice est venu: il fera aujourd'huy oui par des commissaires.

22 Decembre, 1654. [N. S.]

Vostre tres humble serviteur.

Mr. John Aldworth to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

V. xxi. p. 218.

MY last unto you was of the 15th currant, and now I have received yours of the 20th of November, observing thereby the commands you are pleased to honor mee with; which shal be punctually observed on all occasions, as oportunitie shall present. In my last I gave you notice, that the duke of Guize with his army was arrived at Thollon on the islands of Iris, which since proves contrary, it being only two men of warr of the fleete, that was not able to follow, so is returned with about 1200 soldiers in them, being in greate want of provisions. Thear is noe certainty wheare the fleete and army is at present; its certaine they was att Castle de mar, but forced aboard againe with the los of the listenant generall and 15 or 20 other commanders. A barque that arrived here 3 dayes past brings advice, that hee mett severall of generall Blake's ships about the islands of Mayorke: heard advise also, that Monsieur de Nacha'le is gott into Lisbone, with his squadron consisting of seven men of warr, and 3 ships of bagadge; and will not adventure into the Streights, by reason of generall Blake: hear is a report, that the king of Portugall will send him 8 off his best ships to assist him, butt of that thear is noe certainty. I am joyfull to understand our 3 nations is in quietnes. The Lord of his mercy continew it. So crave leave, and remayne,

Hear is an ambassadour from the king off France, that is imbarking on a Genoa gally, who is goeing for Rome, Hee may part in a day or two.

Your honnor's most humble servant,

JO. ALDWORTH.

In Marfellia, $\frac{22}{11}$ th December 1654.

A letter of intelligence

Vienna, 23 December 1654. [N. S.]

SIR,

YOUR'S I received by this post, which represents you constantly receive mine, as I do yours; also that R. C. his affairs are come to nothing in Scotland, and are all quiet in England, all which I shall present in this court, be assured of it, tho' I am sure I shall find contrary letters from cavaliers, and such like. I can assure you here is nothing at present of R. C. or his affairs, only some deputies from him to receive the 100,000 dollars, which the emperor promised; and that is not payed nor likely to be in haste, which is all of that.

A. D. 1654.
V. xxi. p. 539.

This court is very curious to know, how the French treaty with the protector proceeds; and whither your great sea and land armies are bound. I answered to some they were secrets; yet could not long be so; and therefore *patientia*.

The archduke Ignatius Leopold hath been very sick of a fever these days past, but at present he is past the worst, and without any fever or ague.

The ambassador of Venice (of whom in my last but this) is near to return into Italy, having his leave of the emperor, and none can yet penetrate his business, if it be not the emperor, his secretary, and a few of the council.

His imperial majesty named an ambassador to be sent to the grand duke of Muscovy, touching the wars betwixt him and the king of Poland.

Here is another ambassador from the grand master of Malta, to condole in his master's name with the emperor for the death of the king of the Romans.

There are great preparations making in Hungary for the coronation of the archduke Leopold Ignatius, as you had before; which is all at this time from,

Sir, your's, &c.

A paper of Nieupoort, the Dutch ambassador in England.

THE lords the states general of the united provinces having perused the treaties of his highness the lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, &c. with the queen of Sweden, the kings of Portugal and Denmark respectively, the first being dated the 11th of April, the second the 10th of July, and the third the 15th of September last past, have observed, that his most serene highness hath not stipulated therein, that the united provinces, if they pleased, should be comprehended in the same treaties; nor that any general clause is therein inserted, for as much as they can perceive, whereby his highness hath reserved the same, which according to the express words and true meaning of the 15th article of the last treaty of peace, union, and confederacy, is agreed, and was fit to be performed accordingly. And therefore the subscribed ambassador extraordinary of the said united provinces is by special order of his superiors commanded to represent the same to his most serene highness, to the end the said lords the states general may know the true and real intention of his most serene highness concerning the contents of the said article; and may so much the better regulate themselves accordingly. And more especially to beseech and urge, that it may please his most renowned highness to give such order, that in the treaties, which his highness hereafter shall conclude, as well with the crown of France as other kings, commonwealths, princes, or potentates, better care and consideration may be taken to perform and accomplish effectually the before-mentioned 15th article.

V. xxi. p. 222.

The subscribed ambassador hath received also a special resolution and order of his superiors, that although by the award of the commissioners of both sides authorised to the determination of the pretences and demands expressed in the 30th article; the East India company in the said united provinces is to pay a very considerable sum of money to the East India company and others of the people inhabitants of England, and that none of their subjects are to receive any satisfaction by the said award; yet to shew their readiness to avoid all complaints for the future, he is authorised to assure his most serene highness, that the said lords states general make no difficulty to pass and exhibit the like declaratory act, as is desired from his most serene highness, a draught whereof he most instantly beseecheth, that may be agreed in conference with such commissioners, as his highness shall be pleased to nominate; considering that the first payment being forty two thousand five hundred pounds, is to be made before the last of January next; and before the said month another sum of three thousand six hundred and fifteen pounds is also to be paid in London. This 14th of December 1654.

WILLIAM NIEUPOORT.

VOL. III.

G

A letter

A letter of intelligence.

Hague, 25 December 1654, [N. S.]

SIR,

A. D. 1654.
V. xxi. p. 247.

NEWs of any publick concernment I have not this week. Our embassador at London continues writing the parliament's proceedings and of some other particular business by every post, but nothing worth the returning to you.

The great divisions concerning the prince of Orange are far more silent than they have been. All that this week produceth considerable is, that those of the province of Holland press hard to have the grant of Mr. Beverning for treasurer signed; which was not only mainly opposed by the rest, but totally denied; whereupon those of Holland may protest. Your friend is now almost well, and within two posts he may better please you, and ease,

Sir, your's, &c.

Vienna, 25th November, 1654. [N. S.]

SIR,

V. xxi. p. 247.

IHAD nothing from you this post, and I have little to give. The emperor is to raise an army of 15000 and all the princes armed. I cannot yet informe myself to satisfaction what the matter is, but by the next I shall give you more of it. All the ambassadors, Polish, Muscovite, and Turkish, are gone. The business of the Venetian ambassador is not yet known hither. The emperor will give 5000 horse to the assistance of Poland, in case a peace may not be. P. Rupert is now I believe at Heidelberg, and went from hence well satisfied. Of R. C. or his business here is not a word considerable since my former. Nor have I more to add at present, but that I am constantly,

Sir, your's.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

MONSIEUR,

V. xxi. p. 230.

LES sieurs Beuningen & Bootsma sont revenu de Staden, & ont fait rapport hier, livrant le traité ou accord fait entre la Sweeden & Breemen, dont la substance est, que Breemen prestera le meme hommage a la Sweede, qu'autrefois elle a presté a l'evêque; qu'elle donne au roy l'Ampt Bederkes avecq 8 villages & la villette Lee: de Bourgh, qui est la Clef (comme l'on dit) de Bremen, ne se parle point: cependant les Swedois sont en possession; & *gaudeant possidentes*. L'immediété demeure disputable. Mais quelle immediété, quand l'on preste hommage? Bref, la bonne ville a eu un bonheur Flammand, comme l'on dit (*een Vlaems geluck*) elle c'est rompue une jambe heureuse, de n'avoir pas rompu le col.

La ville ne c'est pas tant souciee de Lee ny de Bederkes (quoy que pieces d'importance) comme du Bourgh, pour abandonner lequel, ny le magistrat ny les bourgeois ne vouloient point entendre: mais le sieur Beuningen, leur dit, *si vous ne voulez pas glisser cela, nous nous en allons, & tascher de le maintenir ou recouvrer, comme pauvres*. Alors, que feroit la bonne ville? Ainsy Bourgh demeure es mains de Swedois; car quand un puissant possède, cela luy sert de droit. Au retour ils ont visité le conte d'Oldenborch, pour tant mieux autoriser ou flatter celuy, qui a commencé de ruiner la pauvre ville, comme maintenant ou l'acheve. Neantmoins le sieur Beuningen a rapporté, que tant la ville que les Swedois se sont bien contenté de l'accord.

La bonne ville s'est fort enfoncée en debtes, ne sachant pas comment contenter sa propre militie; & outre cela encore a promise de donner douze mille ryx dollars aux Swedois. La Ville a escrit, & le sieur Beuningen l'a recommandé, pour avoir ces 12,000 ryx dollars d'emprunt & a interest sur le credit des estats generaux, ou de la Hollande; ou d'Amsterdam; mais chacun *rejicit in socium; miser eris semper, si miser es, Emiliane*. Mais il faut esperer, que non, & qu'en fin le renard se trouvera chez le pelletier. Le traité est en haut Allemand, & grand; & je ne say si cette fois je pourray l'envoyer. Le hommage s'est fait mecredy 16 Decembris, apres lequel un festin reciproque d'entre les legat plenipotentiaires Rosenhaen & Koningsmarck d'un, & le magistrat & aldermans de l'autre coste, est passé; & cela fait, les Swedois sont retournes a Stade. Je ne voy nul meilleur remede a l'avenir pour la bonne ville, si non de accommoder le mieux qu'ils peuvent avecq les Swedois, & ne se plus fier ny aux decrets de l'empereur, ny aux confederations d'autres.

Le prince Maurice est encore icy ; & quoique par le sieur president il aye fait dire, A. D. 1654. que les affaires estoient un peu changées, & le peril, qu'il vouloit advertir, diminué ; que neantmoins il viendrait en conference.

Mess. de Hollande ne pouvant pas changer la resolution du 19^{me} prise contre le sieur Beverning, ont fait annoter ce qui va cy joint. Et l'on dit, que les autres provinces feront contrenotuler quelque chose contre la dite annotation.

En Frise est maintenant commandé de prier dans toute les eglises pour le prince d'Orange, ce qui ne s'est jamais fait. On y bien tousjours prie pour le stadtholder, mais jamais pour le prince d'Orange. L'on croit que le prince Guillaume a procuré cela pour aneantir le bruit, que ses malveillants font courrir ; qu'il ne travaille que pour soy, & qu'il ne se fert du prince d'Orange que de pretexte ; & qu'en effect, il le supprime. En laquelle opinion on dit, que sont la princesse royale, le sieur de Beverweert, & semblables.

Le prince Maurice a esté en conference avec des commissaires dans une chambre de retraite des estats generaux ; le sieur Verbolt, comme premier en commission, estoit assis au bout de la table du coste droit, le dit prince au coste gauche : le dit prince dit, que S. A. electorale faisoit des levees ; s'estoit liguée avec des princes ses voisins, Brunswigh, Hessen, par jalousie des Swedois, mais qu'a present cela cessoit. Le reste n'estoit que compliment.

$\frac{1}{2}$ Decembris, 1654.

Vostre, &c.

General Fleetwood to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I DOE very much wonder to receive the good newes from Scotland, which you sent, V. xxi. p. 258. and yet a positive command from his highnes to send presently a regiment of horse to Scotland, which at this time of yeare is very difficult ; but it shall be obeyed. Shippes must be pressed from Chester side to Knockfergus. Indead I think it somewhat strange, I shoud no more understand in any thing more then what is communicable to every one. I suppose ther may in thes dayes be more privat resolves, which out of curiosity I should not much care for, but so long as providence continues me in this condicion, I thinke it might be for his highnes service, I should know more then I doe. I thankfully acknowledg your correspondencies. I have in a short confused maner sent you a carecter, till either mine or your leasure will afford better. The army heare is still through mercy in a very good condicion, and firme to my lord protector. Ther are some, who relate to Ireland (not of the souldiers) who doe ill offices in England, and heare, for us ; which, if not timly observed and prevented, will prove unhappy. Their persons, conditions and practices, when I understand of your receiving the inclosed, may be more freely imparted to you then now I am free unto. It is not every one, who pretends faithfullnes, will prove so, but the Lord, I trust, will ever keep his highnes heart to the interest of good men ; and if hee keepes stanch to his principles in the last speech to the parliament about religion, I feare not. I know his tryalls, difficultyes, and temptations are many ; but the Lord, who is able, will save and deliver. Comiss. gen. Reynolds will acquaint you with our affayres, and therfor excuse the trouble of no more at present from your

December 15, 1654.

Most affectionate servant.

CHA. FLEETWOOD.

SIR,

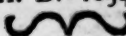
THE carecter will be by the next sent you. I intreat you will see mine to his highnes. I hope notwithstanding the endeavours of one or more, the Lord will keep this army in union and faithfullnes to his highnes ; but I may write agayn and agayn, and can never get any answer to my discourse. I hope within ten dayes 3 or 400 horse will be shipped for Scotland ; you must send shippes for 200, from the English shore.

Mr. P. Roch to colonel Mackworth.

Ipswich in Suffolk, December 15th 1654.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

MAYE it please your honour to remember, that I did inform you of 23 popish preefts V. xxi. p. 224. that are in these parts : Mr. Gilbert informed mee, that it was your plesure to have mee write to you, if I could finde any, that could prove them preefts ; which causeth this bouldnes in mee to truble your honor with these lines. I have spoken with the man, that did

A. D. 1654.  did informe mee of most of them; and hee will take his oath, that he hath seen 5 or 6 of them execute their preeftly office, and wil finde others, that shall proove the same against those and others of them; and hee wil bring mee to the places where they and their church-stuff are kept, and also shew mee the person that they imploye as a post to carry letters amongst the papists: this man hath a relation to a greates papist in this cuntry, whereby hee hath gotten this knowledg; and if your honor may think it may be for the glory of God and this good of the commonwealth, I shall use my best skill to gett them apprehended. If you please to let mee have a warrant, and power to call to my assistance officers millitary and fiveill to search for them, at Christmas will bee the best time to looke for them; for then they will be employed at gentlemen's houses; or if your honor shall think fit to imploye any man else in this business that maye bee more fit for it, I shall give him all the lye I can; for I conseave that man, which undertakes it, shall never be out of danger of his life; yet I shall willingly put that in my hand, if I am called to it. I know where they have som long peeces and pistalls, and muskettes, and soards, and rapiers; and when any papists in this cuntry ride, they be very well armed: and here be very many in Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Lincolnshire, and Cambridgeshire hath sum. I cold give your honor a farther account of som of them; but I feare I am to tediose; wherefore I beg pardon for this bouldnes, and shall waite for your honor's commands, at Mr. Robert Hall his house in Ipswich, where I shall indevor to shew my thankfullnes for the many favours I have receved from your honour, by my faithfullnes in whot you please to command mee.

Your honor's faithfull sarvant,

POLICARPUS ROCK.

The superscription,

*To the right honorable collonell Mackforth, at
his lodging in the Green Mewe neare Chair-
ing-Crosse London, humbly these present.*

From the resident Heinsius in Sweden.

MY LORD,

V.xxi.p.244. **Y**OUR Lordship will have observed by my last, as I hope, that the commission of their high mightinesses, to take upon me provisionally the character of resident of the united Netherland, is well come to hand. Yesterday I had for the first time an audience of the king, and have been very well received; they made some objections to the superscription of the credentials, because after the words *Cassubiae & Wandaliae*, there was left out, *Rugiae, Ingriae & Wismaniae domino*, as it is in all the letters generally directed by their high mightinesses to the crown of Sweden; and although I made the excuse, that it happened only because there was not space enough on the letter to contain all his majesty's titles, yet they answered civilly, that it would be acceptable to his majesty, if the omission of those three lordships were avoided for the future, the rather, since in the reign of queen Christina, the due titles were not exactly observed at this court here, whereby cause was given, that some foreign princes, disaffected to this crown, have endeavoured to make their advantage of it. I think it necessary to mention this to your lordship, in order to prevent for the future all disputes.

After the death of the lord chancellour of this kingdom, the lord admiral Ruymmigh happened to die not long ago, so that his majesty, within a few months of his reign, has lost two of his eldest senators, which had served both of them king Gustavus in that character: they were lords of great merit and experience. To morrow or the day after I will pay my respects to the queen, and afterwards make my compliment to the chief senators,

Wherewith, &c.

My lord, &c.

Stockholm, December 26, 1654.

(sign'd)

N. HEINSIUS.

Mr. W. Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

V.xxi.p.278. **F**ROM Archangel the 16th September under cover to the Russia company I writt your honor by two of our shippes, that sett sail from thence the 19th (tho' the shipp of their company before set sail with them) and I hope e'r this time will be well arrived to their

their intended port of London, and my said letters (with my former written by other companies) come safe to your honor's hand. On the boat provided me by the Vyvode of Archangell I departed thence the 20th September on the river Duina, accompanied with a prestave (so is termed a scrivener officer of the imperiall office, given me by the governor to have charge of my conduction) six souldiers of my guard, and thirty men to draw my boate, so that the 6th we arrived at a village called Ofinskyam distant from Archangell 220 verze, where we were forced to stay 4 days, through the occasion that ten of the emperour's boats laden with his goods and treasure were gone a little before us, and had taken up all the men of that place to draw them, so that there was none for us, till we could procure them from other villages adjacent.

We departed Ofinskyam the 10th of October, and arrived to the city Ostega the 18th ditto (380 verze distant from the former plain) which is of good bigness, full of inhabitants, and commanded by a nobleman. Twenty verze before we come to that city is the confluence of the two rivers Duina and Zeukna, that coming down from the kingdom of Seberia, lying towards the North East, and this having his course from towards the South. From Ostega upwards there is no more sailing for boats, but are altogether drawn by men to the city of Volegda. Both those rivers are noble, very commodious for traffick, and have plenty of very good fish.

At Ostega we only stayed to change our men, and then departed thence. The 23d of October we arrived at the city Totma, distant from Ostega 250 verze; from thence to Volegda the river is called the upper Zeukna, whose stream is not so rapid as lower down, but a fine river it is, abounding with several species of very good fish, and very commodious to navigate.

The 26th of October we came to a pretty big village called Sheufca (150 verze from Totma) where we understood that the pestilent sickness was very hott in the city Volegda, (the like report we had from severall boats coming down the river that we encountered) which caused me to stay at Sheufca, and send my prestave to the Vyvode of Volegda, accompanied with my letters to some English merchants in that city, to be truly informed of the state of the sickness there. My prestave returned the 29th ditto, and brought me advertisement, that the plague was not so much there as the bruit went, and therefore was wished to come forward, which I did forthwithall; but not having gone passing 25 verze to a village called Narima, the weather was so cold, and the river so hard frozen, that it was impossible to proceed farther by boat, so that we stayed there till the 6th current, that we had provided ourselves with horses and sleds, and then departed from that village, and came hither the morning following 65 verze from thence.

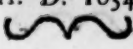
On the return of my prestave from thence to Sheufca, he brought me word from this Vyvode, that according to the emperour's order he would provide me a house to be ready at my here arrival; but I have thanked him for it, and have accepted of rooms in an English merchant's house, deeming it better to be with our nation in this time of sickness, than in a Ruffe habitation. The governor presently after my here arrivall sent a scribe of the imperiall office (as is the custom) to welcome me, and to tell me, that the Vyvode had order from the emperor to use me with all the respect and civility, and to give me the like allowance as I had from the governour of Archangell, and withall sent me a small present of victuals, and Ruffe wine.

The day after my coming to this city this Vyvode sent unto me the prime scribe of the office, to shew me a letter he had then received from the prince, wherein his imperial highness ordereth him, that if I were not arrived here on receipt of the letter, that then he should dispeed an agent unto me to stay me, where he should find me, to lodge me conveniently in some village free of the sickness, and not want any thing, and not to come forward till further order; but if I were arrived, then I should stay here till his majesty's further pleasure; in the interim to be used with all respect. The governour in answer to that letter and by others written after that, hath given notice to the emperor and prince of my being here; so that now I am here to stay his majesty's answer.

The last letters the Vyvode received from the emperor were written from the city of Vatma, which is 700 verze from hence, and 180 from Moscow, in the way to Smolensko, where his majesty intendeth to abide some time, and where the imperatrisse and prince are gone.

What is above was written the 20th of November, which I had made ready to have sent to the new Slebey (so is called a suburb of the city Moscow, where all strangers live) to have been sent from thence to Riga by the first conveyance, that should have presented, but the party, to whom I intended to send it unto at the Slebey, came hither some days past; so have kept it till present, that he returned thither, and now I delivered it him to send it forward by first occasion, that shall be presented him after his there arrivall.

As for the progress the emperor has made in his wars against the king of Poland, there is nothing of truth to be had from the Ruffes. What I have learnt that is of the most certitude, is by some military officers strangers, that have past by this city, and gone down

A. D. 1654  the river about 300 verze from thence, where they are to winter and make recruits for the future campania, who have certified me, that in September last the emperor commanded the scaling of the walls of Smolensko, which was accordingly attempted, but by the defendants repulsed with the loss of about 8000 of his majesty's men. After which of two governors that commanded in the city, the one a German, and the other a Pole, this (whether out of cowardice or infidelity, 'tis not certainly known but contrary to the other's will,) demanded to capitulate, and upon conditions agreed on the end of that month yielded up the city to the emperor, in which defence there was 5000 soldiers, whereof only 800 marched away, and that these have taken his majesty's pay to serve him, and to which is given (as is to the rest of the common soldiers of that garrison) the name of Cossacks, as esteemed of more credit then that of Streltsy, the name of the emperor's ordinary militia.

There was lost in that city, when yielded up, ammunition and provision of victuals for a 12 month, had there been 10000 men for its defence. The emperor hath now in that city 4 governors (with a strong and numerous garrison) whereof the 3d in order is a Scotchman, one Lesly, that served king Charles in the wars of England. His imperial majesty hath also taken and brought under his subjection about 30 other cities and places of some consequence, and in some of them the Poles made good resistance before their yielding upon composition; but the Russians, contrary to what was capitulated, did execute on men, women, and children, the most barbarous and inhuman cruelties as can be imagined, not only against those, that were living, but also on such as had been newly buried, in taking the bodies out of their graves, and cutt them to peices.

The country, cities, and places the emperor hath taken, are all in White Russia, and belonged to the duke Reginel, the cheifest Palatin and nobleman in Poland, who was with a body of an army of 8000 within 30 verze of Smolensko, and going to its succour; who having past over a narrow passage, where only four men could stand afront, and set his men in battle in a plain before the strait, very unadvisedly lett one of the emperor's generals, named Kneaz Jocene Coodonetinich Chercassey, with an army of 40000 men to pass over that strait passage, without any opposition (as Reginel might easily have done) and being passed, set on his enemy's small number, and defeated him altogether, that only Reginel and some few of his escaped by flight.

At the time, that the emperor hath been in his martial progress against Reginel, the king of Poland with his army hath been towards the Black Sea, in opposing the designs of the Cossack generall, that's revolted from him; but we learn not of any thing acted betwixt them. 'Tis reported there is no good intelligence betwixt that king and Reginel, and said that to be the cause, that that majesty hath neglected to give him succour against the Russian.

The emperor may have lost in the past campania incirca 50000 men, the greatest part of them by sickness, and for the most of those that were wounded in fight died for want of dressing, for that there was only 4 chirurgions in all the emperor's armies.

Before the onset at Smolensko his majesty called those officers strangers, that were in his camp, before him, to whom he made large promises of great rewards, if they did carry themselves with courage and valour; telling them, that he hath far greater treasure then ever had any of his predecessors, and that they should not doubt of effecting his promises. But hitherto the effects of these large assurances hath been no other than excuses his majesty hath made them, that he had not treasure in the camp, neither could he have any from Muscov without great danger and damage, by reason of the pestilence so much in that city; and therefore had such dollers as his treasurers had with them to be cut in four quarters, and on each of them stamped his mark, and each quarter to pass for half a doller. This dealing with the strangers, and little appearance to be restored of the loss they sustain by the money received, added to their small pay, makes them to be discontented, and would depart the country, if they could tell how; but of that also they have little or no hope at all, for the difficulties that are to get out of it.

The plague entered the city of Moscow as soon as the emperor was gone forth of it to the wars, of which there hath dyed and been buried by register taken upward of 200000, besides some thousands of bodies, that have had no other sepulchres than the bowells of dogs and hogs, that have eaten them, as well in the houses, as in the streets. This sickness hath passed (and is yet) in most places of this tract of the country for about 2000 miles in diameter, and now 'tis reported, that the kingdoms of Cazan and Astracan are also infected, and the mortality to be very great. Of those that dye the major part are men and children. This city hath had less affliction by the sickness than any other in a great circuit thereabouts, here not having dyed past a thousand persons, and the most part of them poor people.

The emperor, emperatrice, and prince are still at Vasma, where of late dyed Nokeeta Jeanouich Romanfue, his majesty's uncle, a prince that was very much beloved of the nobility and people, and by them exceedingly regretted, but is not by Boiris Jeanouich Moreouse, nor by Elia Daneleuich Mileslaussey, the emperor's brother-in-law and father-in-law,

in-law, who Nekea could never away with for their mean birth and corrupt lives, seeking A. D. 1654.
nothing but their own interest to the publick damage. The plague is in Vafma, notwithstanding we learnt nothing of the emperour's removal from thence.

I am informed, that there is arrived at Vafma two posts, the one from the king of Sweden, the other from the elector Brandenburg, both of them with letters to the emperour, to make way for two embassadors from those two princes. It should seem, that the truce made three years past betwixt this emperour and the then queen of Sweden is near, if not altogether, at an end, which then to obtain this majesty gave her 300000 † rebles † Two rebles make a pound sterling. in money; and 'tis thought the present king will not have less to renew it. It is also reported, that his majesty's ambassador comes to treat about the differences that are betwixt this emperour and the king of Poland. Brandenbough sends for same purpose, and said it is, that he hath in his letter intimated to his imperial majesty, that if he come not to adjustment with Poland upon equitable conditions, he can do no less than declare warr against the emperour; for that Brandenbough is a vassall to the Pole, as having many places and lands in that kingdom and dominions. It is also reported, that Sweden sends an ambassador to the king of Poland.

For many years past there hath been a mutuall good intelligence betwixt this emperour and the Persian king, that upon occasions embassadors past betwixt them, and a great commerce there was exercised by their subjects reciprocally to each of their princes dominions. But about 4 years past the Persian merchants were much abused and damnified in their traffick by the emperour's ministers and merchants at Moscow, without any redress they could have there. So that in their just complaints to their king at their return into Persia, that majesty imprisoned all the Russe merchants that were in his countrey, and sequestred their estates, of which this emperour having notice, and not knowing how to right himself (for he hath great interest in the goods his merchants carry into Persia) and his subjects, but by sending an ambassador to the sophy, which was done upwards of 2 years past, and where the ambassador hath adjusted all matters to the Persians satisfaction. And now the emperour's subjects are returned with commodities to a great value, and within a month or two his ambassadour may also arrive, the Russe merchants, that are returned reporting, that the next year will be at Moscow an ambassadour from the king of Persia.

Upon the emperour's going forth of Muscovy to the warrs, a strait order was given to all governours and commanders of places on the confines of these dominions, to let no persons come in, nor none to go forth of this country, to prevent all intelligence, that might be given of the proceedings and state of affairs in those parts, and thro' which occasion no letters have come to these Dutch merchants these 5 or 6 months; whereas usually they have letters from Amsterdam and Hambourgh twice a month.

At this instant is news come from Moscow, that no more dye there of the sickness of those, that have been in the city from the beginning thereof; but most of those persons, that come there from other places, dye very suddenly. There is no good order used for the cleansing of that city; notwithstanding 'tis now reported, that the emperour will be there at Christmas, and intends for devotion to go thither from Vafma a great part of the way afoote.

I cannot write any thing of my owne particular, when I shall be sent for by the emperour.

This is what I know to occur, that meritts your honour's knowledge: so doe humbly take leave, and remain,

Right honourable,

In Vologda, this 16th
December, 1654.

Your honour's most humble

and devoted servant,

WILLIAM PRIDEAUX.

A letter of intelligence.

Brussels, 26 December, 1654.

SIR,

YOUR's of the 18th instant I received, and conveyed your's to Vienna and Cologne, V.xxi. p.246.
as accustomed. So I send herein your friends letters there to you. It seems you have not much of news in England, only of your great fleet and land army to be sent you know not whither. They fear much at this court they are to invade the Spanish dominions in the West-Indies. Time will let us see.

The news here are full of the routing of duke de Guise in Naples, which I presume you have out of France sooner than from hence you may. The letters come to this court bring, that there is not one of the Guiseans left in Castlemare; and that of 25 ships of war, which that Duke had with him, there escaped drowning and taking but 14; and

A. D. 1654. and that of 6000 and odd men he had with him land soldiers, the one half is not living, or at least with him, the rest being drowned, slain, run away, or made prisoners, which is in short the substance of that unsuccessful expedition of duke de Guise.

But of the other side we have notice, that marshal Turenne is near Lance with an army of 12000; some fear to besiege that small garrison; others say, it is to relieve the garrison of Quesnoy, which is much streightned by the Spanish garrisons for want of provision. The next will bring something more to you of it. But we have yet another loss; for two regiments of the Lorainers are gone from us to the French, to serve that king.

We have good news again from Madrid by letters of the 29 Novemb. that all the differences betwixt his majesty and the republick of Genoa are agreed upon for certain with the Genoese ambassador plenipotentiary; and that the same week publication thereof was to be made.

The 23 instant the queen of Sweden made her solemn entry into Bruffels; and the 24 the archduke dined with her, with other princes, in the quarter of the palace, of which I gave you notice in former letters. It is thought that queen has some great design in hand, as time will let us see. Some stick not to say, she will go to Paris, in order to a general peace.

The natives of this country are very desirous to pay the militia themselves; which the king's ministers will not consent to. It is much feared a revolt or troubles may ensue, as something in Antwerp already towards it, and may be worse in other places; which is all at present from,

Sir, your's.

General Monck to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

V. xxi. p. 238.

Understanding that there is a letter sent lately to Middleton to doe his best to keep upp his forces, by reason that they had some designe to bee by some people in England uppon your highnesse's person, I conceive it my dutie humbly to acquaint your highness therewith. I shall shortly give your highness some further accompt of it, having already notice, that the letter was conveyed by one of the lord Kinowle's sisters to Middleton. And she being at London, your highness may doe well to take orders for causeing any letters that come directed to her, to be opened, and I shall do my best heere to discover that wicked design, and advertise your highness of what I finde.

The lord Napier, and Mac Naughton, with about 20 horse, are all the enemy stirring in the hethermost part of the highe-lands. Middleton is farr north, with only twentie foote, haveing noe horse. The lord Lorne is to meete his father the marques of Argyle, and probably will come in, if hee shall be admitted, wherein (hee being an excepted person) I humbly desire your highnesse's pleasure, as alsoe concerning what conditions shall bee granted him. I humbly take leave, and remaine

Dalkeith, 16 Decemb.
1654.

Your highnesse's

Most humble fervant,

GEORGE MONCK.

The count de Bonneau to monfr. Datin.

Paris, 26 December, 1654. [N. S.]

SIR,

V. xxi. p. 266.

I Have received none from you since the 17th of this month; but I have had a relation from Mr. de Gomon, commander general of Normandy, wherein were very considerable things. It doth seem that the protector is established to his mind, and that now he is hastening out his fleet for the expedition so long spoken of. I have received letters from Brest from Mr. de la Riviere, who writes me word, that six English frigates were come near their posts, and had set upon two French frigates that lay at the mouth of the port, who saved themselves by getting into it; which the said English frigates perceiving, they shot many great shots of 24lb. into the city; afterwards they went away, and came to an anchor some four leagues off the town, where they lye to surprize our ships.

Mr. Timothy

Mr. Timothy Taylor to Mr. Harrison.

HONOURED SIR,

THERE was lately a petition (relating to my lord Hen. Cromwell) directed to his highness the lord protector, sent into these parts by my lord Conway, col. Tho. Coote, and major Rowdon, and brought to us by Mr. Robert Brice, which was subscribed by the most of the chiefe men in Carrickfergus; which petition, I heard, col. Barrow intended to suppress, whereupon I sent to speak with Mr. Brice about it; and the rather, because I heard col. Barrow pretended to do what hee did by order. Mr. Brice told me, that what I had heard was true, and that hee desired to see the order, which col. Barrow alledged he had, but noe such order was shewed to him, and that hee had sent col. Barrow's letter concerning that business inclosed in one of his owne to major Rowdon, which I hope my lord Henerie Cromwell hath before this received. Since I opposed Mr. Dickes his doctrine in publick, col. Barrow absents himselfe from the publick meeting. Here is great joy among the anabaptists for the newes of my lord deputie's returne for Ireland. Capt. Bonnell, one of the same church with col. Barrow, went yesterday for England, where his companie is; but whether to attend his charge, or to negotiate for col. Barrow, I am uncertaine; but I heare hee hath left his wife behind at col. Barrow's, and therefore probably hee will returne. Wee heartily desire, and pray for the continuance of major Redman in his command. I received a letter out of Scotland lately, intimating a strong expectation amongst the Scots of a sudden change of things: I perceived symptoms of the like in this countrey, which is hoped is nipt in the bud by the securing some of our great men. The spirits of men are like a troubled sea; God will have us to see, that his providence is our peace. My brother-in-law, whose name is John Preston, hath 100 l. fallaric per ann. out of which hee maintaines 2 boates to passe with the packets betwixt this and Aire in Scotland. He hath earnest occasion to goe into Lancashire. I pray doe me the favour to procure him a furlo for 3 or 4 monthes, and he will put one in his roome to attend the state's service. If he should not goe at this tyme, it would be much to his prejudice. Sir, I am more full, because Mr. Tuttell, receiver of the revenue in this precinct, is the bearer; by whom at his returne I pray write to me relating to the contents of this letter, and what els you judge meet, that I may know something more of the church's affaires, and of the working of divine providence relating to the commonwealth from your hand; who desire to see a humble suitor at the throne of grace, that peace and truth may flourish in these nations, and remaine

Kilroot, Dec. 17.
1655.Your faythful brother and
servant in the Lord Jesus,
TIMO. TAYLOR.

The superscription,

*To the reverend my verie much honoured
freind Mr. Harrison, preacher of God's
word in Dublin.**An intercepted letter of capt. Hedworth &c. to major Holmes &c.*

DEARELY BELOVED BRETHREN,

THE most highe God hath sett it upon our heartes; and wee judge it ought never to be forgotten by us, the eminent mercies and deliverances, which the lord of hostes hath made us subjects of, and instruments in. Hee hath called us forth in our generation to assert the freedoms of the people in the privileges of parliament, for which have been expended vast treasures, spilt much blood, putt up into heaven many prayers, powred out teares, and sent down from heaven many signall salvations; for the accomplishing of which end there lyes upon us many vowes, declarations, and solemne appeales to the most Highe. And how the price of all that blood and treasure, the answer of these prayers, the accompt of these teares, the improvement of these salvations, the performances of all those vowes and declarations to God and the people, and the vindication of our sincerity in those appeales, call aloud upon us seriously to consider, viz. whether we have obtained our end, and may quietly sitt downe satisfied in the present state of publicke affaires, and with a good conscience look the king of terrors in the face, as having faithfully served our generation; or whether, except wee doe somewhat more, the guilt of the blood of soe many thousands, the miseries of a wasted commonwealth, the breach of vowes and trust, the prayers and cries of faine, and the hipocrisy of our professions,

VOL. III.

I

A. D. 1654. *W*effions, will not lye heavy uppon our consciences, bodies, and estates, till wee returne to our duty, and afterwards sinke us down to the bottomless pitt. Wee therefore being pressed in our consciences, doe earnestly desire a conference with you, or whom you shall appoint to the end aforesaid. If a sence answerable to ours bee not uppon your hearts, and that you slight this address, yet wee shall have comfort in this, that wee have in soe much discharged our duties towards you. We remain

Your affectionat, and faithfull friends,

Hen. Hedworth,	John Toome,	Jo. Gregory,
Jo. Waltridge,	John Braman,	Fr. Rawfon,
Will. Barford,	Samuel Otes.	

Abberdeene, 18th December.

1654.

*To major Holmes, to be communicated
to our christian friends in generall
Monck's regiment.*

The place appointed is Edinburgh, at the greene dragon in Canny-gate, on new-year's-day, at foure in the evening; enquire for John Loveland.

This note is sent, that your Highness may knowe what officers they are, who signed the letter, whereof a copy is now sent you.

Henry Hedworth, capt. in Sir William Constable's regiment.	
John Braman, lieutenant	} Captaine Merryman's troope. [in another paper]
John Toomes, cornet	
John Loveland, private soldier	
Francis Rawfon, lieutenant	} Captaine Babbington's troope.
John Waltredge, quarter-master	
William Barford, quarter-master to coll. Riche's troope.	
John Gregory, quarter-master to major Husband's troope.	
Samuell Otes, chaplaine to coll. Pride's regiment.	

A letter of intelligence.

Rome, the 29 December, 1654. [N. S.]

V. xxi. p. 294.

AFTER severall recidivations his holiness hath a while since received so furious a one is befallen him, that it hath put him to an extremity, and out of hopes to escape. He can hardly breath, and hath received the extreme unction, being not able to live two days longer.

The Danish agent to secretary Thurloe.

CLARISIME AC AMPLISSIME DOMINE,

V. xxi. p. 296.

EX humanissimis dominationis vestrae literis, quas mandato ferenissimae suae celsitudinis ad me dare placuit, percepi, qua ratione Johannes Freeman, sociique per libellum supplicem, conquesti sint de damnis, quae exinde ad eos redundavere, quod navis quaedam Sonderburgica anno 1653 mare Balticum pertransierit, non soluto prius de panis caeterisque laneis opificiis, quibus onerata erat, vectigali. Quanquam autem istius navis praefectus ferenissimae regiae majestatis domini mei clementissimi, ut ipsi referunt, subditus non sit, verum ducis Sonderburgici, neque, si vel maxime esset, videre queam, qua ratione ob eam causam, mercatorum, qui ipsum conduxerant, bona fisco minus adjudicanda essent, cum ipse contra regni Daniae leges ac statuta & regis ac domini mei severam inhibitionem, dedita opera, non usitato per fretum Oresundicum itinere, sed quo facilius regiam suam majestatem vectigalibus ac juribus suis defraudaret, vetitum tenuerit cursum: quod utrum mandato proprietariorum, qui illum conduxerant, fecerit necne, in medio quidem relinquo; hoc vero optimè novi, ea ipsa mercimonia, statim ex quo regio fisco adjudicata fuerunt, à comite de Rebolledo legato Hispanico, Hafniae commorante, repetita fuisse tanquam ad subditos sui Regis Dynkerckae habitantes pertinentia, quanquam non modo testes tum temporis producti ac examinati, verum etiam ipsa

ipsa opificia, contrarium abunde probaverint. Præter hæc mercimonia, de quibus agitur, eo tempore capta & fisco addicta fuerunt, quo Angli tam in hujus Reipublicæ portubus, quam aperto mari, imo ad ipsa regni Daniæ littora, in Danos nullum non hostilitatis genus exercuerunt, ita ut prorsus non videam, quomodo ipso jure retorsionis memorata mercimonia, illo tempore rebusque sic stantibus, latam de eorum confiscatione sententiam vitare potuerint, per nuperos postea tractatus hisce verbis quasi confirmatam :

Art. 4. *Quod omnes offensæ, lites, & controversiæ inter regem Daniæ & rempublicam Angliæ, a 18 Septembris anni 1652. coorte cessabunt, perpetuæque oblivioni dentur, eo modo, quo neutra dictarum partium ob offensas & damna à prædicto tempore alterutrinque illata alteri litem intendet, ullamne molestiam exhibebit, &c.*

Quibus omnibus posthabitis, & non attentis, cum ex supplicantium relatione appareat, prædicta mercimonia nondum vendita aut abalienata esse, ut celsitudinis suæ in literis dominationis vestræ expressæ de animo meo atque in bonum & emolumentum hujus reipublicæ incolarum affectu opinioni respondeam, obligationique, quâ teneor, satisfaciam, omnia, quæ ad corroborandam amicitiam augendaque bona vicinitatis atque correspondentiæ inter serenissimam regiam majestatem dominum meum clementissimum, & celsitudinem suam, & hanc rempublicam officia promovendi, spondeo me non modo secundum desiderium suæ celsitudinis serenissimo regi meo de hoc negotio meliori modo scripturum, verum etiam ut hæc ex præscripto legis lata sententia mitigari possit, ubi in Daniam (Deo volente) appulero, quantum quidem in me erit, operam omnem quam libentissimè collaturum. Interim quo omnia reciprocè, atque juxta æquitatis normam, procedant, regique mei subditis idem in Anglia contingat, præcipue in litibus etiamnum in curia admiralitatis pendentibus, dominationem vestram enixè rogatam volo, ne pro innata sibi integritate, ac summâ, quâ apud celsitudinem suam pollet, autoritate, perficere gravetur, ut memoratæ admiralitatis curiæ speciale quoddam ac absolutum, vel à celsitudine suâ, vel ab ejus concilio, detur mandatum, ad audiendum, ac secundum jus & æquitatem, absque prolixis & non necessariis ambagibus ac impensis, justitiam administrandam in omnibus serenissimi regis mei subditorum causis, inter quas nonnullæ reperiuntur, quas memorata admiralitatis curia absque speciali celsitudinis suæ aut ipsius concilii mandato attingere recusat, speciatim illas, quæ concernunt naves istas, quæ etiamnum Pleymuthi, Portsmouthi, Yarmuthi, hic in fluvio Thamesi, Hullæ, Leith in Scotia, aliisque in locis arresto detinentur, ac diuturnitate temporis pene corruptæ sunt, quas sine prævio celsitudinis suæ mandato, nemo vel fisco addicere, vel relaxare audeat, multo minus regis mei subditos vadimonio liberare, qui deposita in sponsonem pecunia, durante cum Hollandis bello, magno hujus reipub. commodo, frequentia inter Angliam & Norvegiam itinera adducendis materialibus hujus reipublicæ classi maxime necessariis confecerunt, prout, prout fufius ex libello supplice istius navis (cui nomen St. John) præfecti, una cum alio quodam Erasmi Rasmussen, cujus navis Portsmouthi detinetur, paucis retro diebus dominationi vestræ exhibito apparet. Ad quos libellos ita exhibitos, mediante dominationis vestræ intercessione, benignum expecto responsum. Quid super cæteris in genere ad curiam admiralitatis nuperrimè scripserim, ex adjuncto literarum mearum exemplo dominationi vestræ patebit, quamvis serenissimi regis mei subditis hucusque parum inde accesserit emolumenti, nihilque ad literas meas responsi. Enixè rogans, ut dominatio vestra cæteris beneficiis mihi præstitis hunc cumulum addendo, omnia celsitudini suæ meliorem in modum referre velit, simulque ante discessum meum mandatum aliquod ad curiam admiralitatis procurare, quo ipsi absque limitatione potestas fiat, in omnibus regis mei subditorum causis ex æquo cognoscendi, decidendi, ac, prout ratio postulaverit, legis rigorem ex benignitate suæ celsitudinis aliquali favore mitigandi, certo sibi persuadens, hæc regi meo occasionem datura, parem in Dania affectum erga hujus reipublicæ populum demonstrandi. Quibus fidens dominationem vestram divini numinis protectioni etiam atque etiam commendo, permanens,

Dominationi vestræ

Londini 19 Decemb.
1654.

ad quævis officia semper

obsequentissimus,

H. WILLEMSSEN ROSENVINGE.

The Danish agent to secretary Thurloe.

MITTO dominationi vestræ adjunctum literis hisce recessus de ulteriori prolongatione temporis ad permutationem ratihabitionum destinati thema, quod ipsius correctioni submitto, peramanter rogans, velit eadem curæ sibi habere, ut memoratus recessus ante discessum

V.xxi. p. 300.

A. D. 1654. cessum tabellarii, qui hac septimana iter ingressurus est, a dominis commissariis signari possit. Interea temporis dominatio vestra rem fecerit mihi gratissimam, si serenissimi regis mei ratihabitionem in nupero colloquio ipsi exhibitam, per eum, qui praesentes ad illam perferet, mihi remiserit. Alia quaedam, meo quidem iudicio, maximi ad tractatus nostri meliorem executionem visa momenti, velit dominatio vestra ex adjuncto responso ad pergratas suas duodecimo hujus mensis ad me datas, uti et reliquis, quae ipsi annexa sunt, percipere, sibi que persuasum habere, me, ubi, propitio numine, in Daniam appulero, ex parte mea nihil praetermissurum, quod supplicanti huic in emolumentum, aut in universum hujus reipublicae incolarum commerciis in bonum et securitatem ullatenus cedere possit. Vale, clarissime vir, ac bono publico, cui natus es, quam diutissime vive.

Londini, 19 Decembris
1654.

Dominationis vestrae

Semper addictissimus observantissimusque,

H. WILLEMSSEN ROSENVINGE.

V. xxi. p. 302. Quandoquidem inter caeteros articulos, de quibus decimo quinto Septembris proxime elapso inter nos Nathanaelem Fiennes Armigerum, Antonium Ashley Cooper ordinis Baronetti, Carolum Wolfeley ordinis Baronetti, ac Gualterum Strickland Armigerum, serenissimae suae celsitudini ac Angliae, Scotiae, & Hiberniae domino protectori a consiliis secretioribus, & dominum Henricum Willemsen Rosenvinge, serenissimi ac potentissimi regis Daniae & Norwegiae apud hanc rempublicam deputatum extraordinarium, convenerat, unus est tenoris sequentis.

Conventum denique atque concordatum est, quod utraque pars omnia ac singula capita in praesenti tractatu ac fœdere contenta et stabilitata, sincerè ac bona fide observabunt, et per omnes in universum serenissimi Daniae et Norwegiae regis ac reipublicae Angliae subditos, incolas, ac populum, observari facient, neque illis directè vel indirectè contravenient aut contraveniri consentient, omniaque et singula in sufficienti et valida forma concepta, ac manibus suis subscripta, sigillisque magnis roborata, confirmabunt, et ratificabunt, eademque reciproce intra trium mensium spatium, aut citius, si fieri poterit, bona fide et realiter ad id deputatis tradent, aut tradi facient. Cum vero certas ob causas, ac praesertim ob praefixi in ipso tractatu temporis brevitatem, illius hinc inde extraditio haecenus fieri nullo modo potuit, inter utramque partem denuò conventum atque concordatum est, quod ad extradendam ex praescripto citati articuli tractatus ratihabitionem, praedictis tribus mensibus totidem mensis addantur, quemadmodum vi ac virtute hujus recessus addimus atque concedimus, absque ullo tamen praepjudicio, impedimento, ac interruptione caeterorum articulorum in memorato tractatu comprehensorum, qui non obstante hac extensione in suo vigore permanebunt, ac strictè observabuntur: in quorum omnium fidem ac firmitatem, nos infra scripti celsitudinis suae consilarii ac commissarii ex mandato serenissimae suae celsitudinis hunc recessum manibus nostris subscripsimus, atque solitis sigillis munivimus.

A paper from Nieuport the Dutch ambassador delivered to Sir A. Ashley Cooper and Mr. Strickland, 21 December 1654.

V. xxi. p. 348. CUM 7º articulum pacis &c. conventum sit, ut de specificatione earum mercium, quae prohibita aut contrabandae censebuntur, convenienti tempore per commissarios conveniatur, et quotidiana etiam experientia doceat, quo liber et inturbatus commercii navigationisque cursus sit, necessarium esse, ut circa omnes molestias, incommoda, damnaque indies emergentia, certis regulis et cautelis prospiciatur.

A sua parte ita proponit et conducere posse existimat unitarum provinciarum extra ordinem legatus, ut subditi utrimque omni cum libertate et securitate navigent et negociantur in omnibus regnis et terris, quae pace aut neutralitate secum respectivè gaudent; nec ea libertate turbentur per naves aut subditos partis alterutrius, ex causa hostilitatis, quae posthac uni aut alteri separatim posset supervenire cum iis, qui cum altera in amicitia et neutralitate manent.

Ita tamen, ut eo casu hostilitates ad illa regna vel terras cum altera in amicitia vel neutralitate permanentes, neutri populorum licitum sit merces vetitas aut contrabandas transvehere, quin et expressis edictis utriusque hoc prohibeatur.

Et ne de specificatione et designatione illarum mercium vetitarum de novo querelae aut similitudines incidunt, sub iis comprehendantur omnia arma ignita et apparatus eorum, ut tormenta, bombardae, mortaria, petarda, bombi, granata, faussifae, circuli picati, tormentorum fulcra, furcae, baltea, pulver nitratus, restes ignariae, sal nitrum, globi, item omnia alia armorum genera, ut hastae, gladii, galeae, cassides, loricae, hastae securiculae, spicula alia-

que familia: itemque vetitum sit milites, equos, armaturas, catapultarum thecas, balteos, A. D. 1654.
omnesque alios ejusmodi apparatus ad usum belli factos transportare.

Sub ea autem mercium vetitarum denominatione non comprehendantur pecuniæ aut com-
meatus, quales sunt frumentum, triticum, vel alia grana et legumina, sal, vinum, oleum,
aliudve simile, quod sustentationi vitæ inserviat: nisi quod ad urbes locaque obsessa, cir-
cumsepta, vel investita, etiam illos commeatus adportare vetitum sit.

Et quo vetita ejusmodi transportatio ad hostem impediatur, nec tamen commercii liber-
tas et securitas inturbetur, hinc inde naves in portum alterius ingressæ et ad locos et ini-
micos abiturientes teneantur producere et ostendere portus officiariis salvos conductus suos,
qui species oneris sui contineant, et signo et sigillo officarii admiralitatis unde discesserunt
muniti sint, cum expressione loci, ad quem sunt destinatæ; ulterius autem nec molestentur
nec visitentur.

In pleno itidem mari et ad aliquas oras maritimas accedentes, ita tamen, ut portum nolint
intrare, aut ita ingressæ, ut onera sua noluit exponere aut distrahere, non teneantur eorum
rationem reddere, sed salvos etiam conductus suos, ut supra expressum est, exhibeant, nec
ulterius molestentur, aut visitentur; et quo in pleno mari aut circa oras maritimas minori
cum damno, molestiâ, aut cursus interruptione hoc fiat, extrajectum tormenti bellici manentes
naves bellicæ scapham mittant, et cum duobus aut tribus hominibus solummodo in præ-
tereuntem navem intrent; quo salvi conductus iis monstrantur, ut et litteræ maritimæ (de
quarum formâ conveniendum) quibus de onere, habitatione, & nomine magistrî constet, et
an merces vetitæ sint, sufficienter appareat, iisque fides plena adhibeatur, absque aliqua ul-
teriore molestiâ, et in majorem cautelam certificationes contra signatæ hinc inde dentur, ut
melius valor agnoscat, nec ullatenus falsificentur.

Et casu, quo ejusmodi merces vetitæ reperiantur, eadem exonerentur, accusentur, et
fisco addicantur, coram judice admiralitatis aut alio competente; nec navis tamen aliæque
merces et bona libera in ea manentia occupentur, aut fisco addicantur.

Regulæ autem et præcautiones prædictæ undecumque observentur, quoties naves mercato-
riæ aut singulæ, aut etiam numero et societate, et quasi in classes conjunctæ, absque bellicarum
navium comitatu reperiuntur, ut salvos conductus, eo quo prædictum est modo exhibere et
ostendere teneantur. Si autem ejusmodi naves, vel singulæ, vel in classes conjunctæ, alterutrius
reipublicæ naves præfidiarias in comitatu habeant, tum ut liberè absque aliqua inquisitione,
persecutione, aut altum exhibitione transeant, cum a publico status comitatu nihil fraudis
præsumi possit, quin et strictissimis decretis contra eam provideri.

Omnia tamen bona mercesque utriusque, quamvis vetitæ non sint, in alterutrius hostium
naves impositæ, ibique repertæ cum ipsis navibus prædæ sint, atque in publicum addictæ,
omnia autem hostium alterutrius bona mercesve in naves partis alterutrius impositæ, liberæ
et intactæ mancant.

Si circa alterutrius partis littora naves naufragium facere contingat, proprietariis quidquid
superest restituatur, modo intra anni spatium sibi hoc vendicent, solvendo tamen expensas
et præmia, quæ meruerint illi, quorum operâ et diligentia bona recuperata et custodita fue-
rint, de quo salvagio convenietur.

Monfr. de Bordeaux to his son, the French ambassador in England.

Paris, 26 December, 1654. [N. S.]

MON FIL,

QUOY que par vostre lettre vous ne tesmoignes ne plus rien attendre que ma benediction, V. xxi. p. 262.
c'est a dire, ma mort, & qu'oubliant bien faicts, graces, reconnoissance, & la nature,
& mesme la prudence d'un homme constituée en un si grand employ; je ne me veux pas
lasser pour confondre entierement vostre conduicte de continuer mes soins pour vous
fortir avec honneur de vostre employ & de vos autres affaires. La despeche de vostre
audience a este bien receue de S. E. & qui loue fort vostre discours aussy bien que
mess. Servient & le comte de Brienne; & pour vostre despeche, qui parle de l'affaire de
Brest, elle a aussy este rendue a son eminence, qui a temoigné, que vous agisses trop
mollement en les rencontres, & qu'il falloit se plaindre & faire bruit.

The answer of monfr. de Bordeaux to the preceding letter of his father.

31 December 1654. [N. S.]

MONSIEUR,

I DO esteem my self very happy in the approbation, which my last discours had; V. xxi. p. 308.
but I do find myself blameless of the reproach, which his eminence made unto you
upon the subject of Brest, but I cannot tell what might make them accuse me of acting

VOL. III.

K

gently,

A. D. 1654

gently, there being no occasion given to speak, neither to the protector, nor to the commissioners since my last audience; and neither the protector nor the other ever having spoken any thing to me concerning the said place of Brest. It must be, without doubt, that his eminence did receive the advice, which was given me, for a discourse held by the state; wherefore when you see his eminence, you may be pleased to disabuse him, for you may assure him there was never any thing spoken concerning Brest, neither by the protector nor any of the commissioners; and that all my replies and audiences were in no other terms, than the last. If I thought, that they were of another opinion at court, I would have sent a copy of all my discourses, and they would have found, that the two foregoing this last were more fierce, and did end with a kind of leave. I can also add, that the protector in the last audience did reproach me, that Mr. de Baas had declared more inclination for an accommodation than I; and that instead of a thousand fine hopes, which he gave them, I made scruple upon all. This discourse did not pass without a reply; however I made no mention of it in my letters, to the end men should not believe, that revenge should cause me to blame, under the name of the said protector, his conduct, and also not to condemn the judgment and opinion, which his eminence hath of that man, to employ him in a country and in a service altogether contrary to his nature or constitution. I might also add, that his journey and reception at his return into England did not advance my negotiation. I will tell you nothing of my negotiation, in regard the duplicates of my letters will inform you; and I have nothing more to say to you, than to make complaint of the ill interpretation, which you put upon the desire and demand made of your blessing. Of antient times the fathers gave it mornings and nights; and this custom is still in practice in England, where the children of 50 years do fall upon their knees to receive the blessing of their parents, which doth seem to me to be very proper to uphold the respect we are owing unto them. Besides if we must give credit to the scripture, it doth tell us, that the blessing of parents can confer several graces upon us, as well to prolong our lives, as to encrease our worldly estates, the one and the other being very necessary to me. And in case you will not assist me out of your own estate, you might exercise liberality at least, according to the example of the pope, of that which will cost you nothing. I do confess, that to make any profit of it, I should have a faith stronger than mine, that it would be more advantageous to me, to convert it into money. I entreat you then not to believe, that I wish your death, but only to give a part or share of your estate, as much as you can well spare, and may be needful for me. These are the wishes of, &c.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to cardinal Mazarin.

MY LORD,

V. xxi. p. 316.

I DID hope I should have been able to have signified unto you this day the resolution of the lord protector upon my last discourse, the secretary of state having sent unto me to promise me, that I should have it without soliciting him for it. But your E. will see in my letter to count Brienne, that he is no more punctual at present than usually. I hope your Em. will consider, and also give credit to what I write of the state of affairs of this country, before the orders shall be sent, after which I do make account, without any further reply, to take leave either of the protector or the parliament. I do confess, that to me it doth seem more advantageous to agree than to break; however I will execute without scruple what shall be ordered me, if the resolutions of his majesty have any other ground than the impressions, which are given of the instability of the government of England, and of the power of parliament. This last hath declared its weakness in all the important rencounters, and hath divested themselves of their authority, leaving to the protector the choice of the members of the council, in the establishment whereof there may remain some mark of a commonwealth. And to take any measure upon the deliberations, which that body will take during the rest of their sitting, will be to flatter one's self and be deceived likewise at last. I have expected all this while to receive the last orders of yours to sign the treaty agreed upon with coll. Lyon, who doth pretend to receive some money 15 days after the signing thereof; which I cannot promise without a precise order.

31 Decemb. 1654. [N. S.]

A letter

A letter of intelligence.

Paris 31 Decemb. 1654. [N. S.]

THE letters from Rome do advise of the arrival of the cardinal de Retz at Rome, A. D. 1654. and of the favourable audience he hath had of the pope; and that the unfortunate duke of Guise was put to sea with his fleet; and the letters, that are come from V. xxi. p. 270. Marseilles, do speak of his arrival with most of his ships in the isle of Yeres near Provence, where the lords here have writ to him to preserve his fleet, which they talk of repairing, and encreasing the number thereof, as well to be in a condition to make some farther enterprise against the Spaniards, as also by reason of the jealousies, which the English fleet giveth here, whose force is very much apprehended.

Examination of John Dallington taken by secretary Thurloe.

JOHN Dallington of Tichmarsh in the county of Northampton saith, that he upon V. xxi. p. 328. Sunday was a sevensnight met with one William Prior of Thurning, within 4 miles of Tichmarsh; and that the said Prior (they having some conference about affairs) told him, that there were several in the army, that were resolved to stand to their first principles, in opposition to the government; and that he had a declaration in his pocket to that purpose, which should be published for the satisfaction of honest men; which declaration the said Prior shewed to this examinant, and read it to him, and said it should, as soon as they had gathered to their rendezvous, be in print, and put in every market-place. Their rendezvous (he said) was to be in January at several places, and named Salisbury Plain, and Marston Moor; and other places he said was also agreed upon, and their colours should be white tape and white ribbons. He said also, that the lord Grey would be for them, and so would col. Saunders, and col. Okey, but did not know what Sir Arthur Haselrigge would do; but said, he went with a gallant resolution from the parliament. And farther, that there were agitators sent into the army in Scotland and Ireland, and that many of them would draw unto their assistance in January, when their rendezvous should be; and bid this examinant, for his farther satisfaction, go to coll. Eyres at London, who lodged in Black-Fryers in Swan-Alley, at a chandler's shop near the Green Dragon; and that this examinant should tell him, that the said Prior had finished his business in the counties of Northampton, Leicester, Huntingdon, and Cambridge; and that he was now going to Leicestershire about the said business, and from thence he should come to Cambridgeshire to conclude the whole business, which business was to inform honest men of affairs, and to see how they did like of this declaration, and own it. And this examinant saith, that he did send up to London yesterday, and went to coll. Eyres, and found him at the place aforesaid. And the said Eyres having called the examinant up to his chamber, the examinant told him, what Prior wished him to acquaint them with as aforesaid; whereupon Eyres asked, why Prior did not write to them; and said, that indeed he had fought for his liberty, but had none, and that it was as good living in Turkey as here: but that he thought to go again for Ireland; which was the effect of what the said Eyres said; the examinant perceiving that Eyres was timorous, and not willing to speak with the examinant about any such business.

This examination taken this 21 Decemb. 1654.

The mark of John [] Dallington.

He saith, that Prior was in the
Levelling business at Burford,
and with one Thompson at
Northampton.

Nieupoort, the Dutch ambassador in England, to the states general.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

MY lords, the twelve appointed divines, mentioned in my last, have by form of confession, V. xxii. p. 25. as I am informed, drawn up in writing 20 articles, containing the most fundamental and essential points of the true christian religion, and whereof as many copies are printed, as there are members of this present parliament now here. And instead of a special denomination of heresies, they have proposed, that all those, that shall preach and write against the said 20 articles, or against any one of them, shall be deemed heretics, and that they

A. D. 1654. they should not be tolerated; whereunto, it is said, the members have agreed. And to the end that this affair may not appear in publick by pieces or unfinished, they have made a strict order, that no body before the final conclusion, shall communicate the copy delivered unto him, to any body whatsoever. The parliament has also consented, that 20000 foot and 10000 horse shall be maintained at the charge of the state, and that for that purpose the monthly tax of 60000 pounds per month shall be continued over England and Wales, till the 40th day of the session of the next parliament. Moreover it is resolved, that, to the order of the lord protector and council, out of the readiest money, two hundred thousand pounds yearly shall be employed, for the support of justice and the government. Farther it is resolved, that the houses of Whitehall, St. James's, Somerset, Greenwich, Windsor, Hampton-court and others, shall be left for the service and use of the present and following protectors, and that all the other domains, not here before disposed of, shall in like manner be left to his highness; and at last it has been found good, that all the articles, in form of a projected resolution (whereby all the laws and statutes, containing any things contrary to the beforementioned articles of the government are repealed and declared to be of no force) the said general act concerning the government, and all the others which are passed in this present parliament, touching the disbanding of the garde noble, and other regulations made in the courts of justice and otherwise, shall now, within a few days, be delivered to the lord protector, in order to be finally confirmed, with the approbation of his highness, within twenty days, which are allowed him for that purpose by the articles of government. Yesterday I was told by a person of distinction, that a squadron of the fleet under the command of general Penn was failed already some days ago, and that all the remaining ships were ready to follow, within a very few days. They have assured me likewise, that the lord protector, for the benefit of the revenues of the customs, convoys and excise, had declared, that he was inclineable to let out these two branches entirely upon farm, and that by substantial and qualified persons a yearly sum of twelve hundred thousand pounds was offered him already for the same. Just now I am informed from a good hand, that the said general act of government was read twice this morning in the parliament, and that it was resolved, that the same for the third and last time should be read again on monday next and passed. In Scotland and Ireland since my last nothing considerable has happened.

Wherewith, &c.

high and mighty lords, &c.

Westminster, Jan. 1. 1655. [N. S.]

(sign'd)

W. NIEUPOORT.

Nieupoort to Ruysch.

MY LORD,

V. xxii. p. 31.

AFTER the closing of my letters of friday last I was informed from a very good hand, that the lords of the council, which were summoned to appear, were obliged, because of some important deliberations concerning the military forces, to be present that evening in the parliament, as likewise all the day following, so that no resolution could be taken upon the memorial I had presented. The day after Mr. Meadows, who is employed in the dispatches in the Latin language, came to me by order of Mr. Thurloe, and assured me with many civil expressions, that the said gentleman was very sorry, that the council, according to his promise, had not been assembled, promising that he would not lay my papers out of his sight. Nevertheless I thought fit, pursuant to the advice of those, that are best affectioned towards the state of the united Netherlands, not only to urge the said affairs, but also that of the creditors of the queen of Bohemia, and for that purpose, to speak last friday with the said Mr. Thurloe, and to acquaint his honour, that I had received from their high mightinesses fundry letters of recommendation and credentials to the present parliament, to the end that I should endeavour by all proper ways, to promote the same by his highness and the parliament, that out of the arrears of the pension, formerly granted for the use of the said queen, her creditors, who all of them live at the Hague and in other places of the province of Holland, may obtain payment; however that I had thought proper, first to apply to his highness, and to pray, that by the assistance of his favour and wise direction, this affair may be brought to a happy conclusion. Whereupon the said gentleman did promise me, that he would speak to his highness, and procure, that I myself touching this business should have an audience; adding however, that their time was yet so much taken up with parliamentary affairs and other matters, that he could not fix the day, and that he would send me word. Further he told me likewise, that he was sorry, that the council as yet could find no time to consult upon the memorials delivered

delivered by me, but that he now did assure me, that on the thursday following some commissaries of the council should meet me, to enter upon the marine affairs, and that he would endeavour, that by them also the order of the council in relation to my former memorials should be delivered. Accordingly sir Anthony Ashley Cooper and mr. Strickland came yesterday to me with the secretary Jessop, telling me, that they were commissioned by the lord protector and the council, to receive of me what I thought fit to propose concerning the marine; whereupon I represented to them the excesses, which, under the colour of reprisals against the French, were committed against the ships of the subjects of their high mightinesses; and shewed them the necessity there was, for the ease of both nations, to prevent these inconveniencies by a salutary contract and regulation of the marine. For which purpose some articles were drawn up by order and in behalf of their high mightinesses, which I delivered unto their lordships in the English language, being the same, which before the departure of the two other lords ambassadors were jointly projected by us. The said lords answered, that they would receive the same, and communicate the said articles forthwith to the other commissaries, who because of some weighty affairs had been obliged to attend in parliament, and consequently were prevented from coming to me. I then asked, whether no resolution was taken as yet upon my memorial, which contained some particular grievances: they answered, that the council has had no time as yet to examine the same, but that they would undertake seriously to recommend the same, and procure that I very soon should be satisfied. I shew'd unto their lordships the absurdity and illegality of such seizures of ships by some particular privateers, and that the state, as it was evident, did reap no advantage from it, and nevertheless must bear the blame; and that the towns in the united provinces were situated so near one another, that in case the inhabitants of one city were thus unjustly dealt with and injured, the whole country would be filled with complaints and outcries: their lordships declared hereupon, that his highness and the council would soon make another regulation, and shew in fact, that they were seriously inclined, not only to preserve the peace, but also to cultivate more and more a mutual friendship. I asked the same lords, if any thing was resolved upon my memorial concerning the act of declaration of the lord protector, touching the decision of the commissaries of both parties of the 30th of July last past. To which they answered, that something was spoken of it, but that they at present could give no direct answer to the same, and promised again, that they would make report of what I had spoken to their lordships on that head. Yesterday about noon two commissaries of the prince's office came also to me, telling me, that they had further examined the account of freight of the ship the Golden Dolphin of Edam, in behalf whereof Mr. Louis Godyn, merchant of Amsterdam, had obtained their high mightinesses letters of intercession, and that they had found, that there had been a mistake in the measure; but being now informed thereof, they were ready to pay the freight, according to the charter party, without giving any further trouble to the council on that account; desiring of me, that I would speak with the agent of the said Mr. Godyn. At the same time came to me the deputies of the directors of the East-India company here, and imparted to me the difficulties and scruples, that they found to deliver an absolute acquittance, before they were assured of the actual restitution of Poleron; whereupon I assured them, that they had no reason to make any scruples, since this affair was ratified as well by their high mightinesses as by the lords the states of the provinces concerned therein, and that I by a special order and resolution of their high mightinesses was authorised to promise, that a like act of declaration *mutatis mutandis* should be passed in the name of their high mightinesses, as that which was required of the lord protector; representing unto them at the same time, how punctually every thing was performed and accomplished from the part of the united Netherlands, and that therefore there was no reason to mistrust them herein, and that it was but just in every respect, that the company of the Netherlands paying such a considerable sum of money, should be also made easy in the best form, and that it would be for the good of both the companies, that all occasions of jealousy and disputes were removed. The said deputies repeated their former difficulties; and alderman Garraway coming to dine with me, and asking me after dinner, whether I would promise in writing, that the restitution of the said island should effectually be performed, I declared, that I made no scruple of it, as soon as the said acquittances and act of declaration of the lord protector, according to the forms which are sent over, should be passed and delivered, whereupon he desired, that I would sett it down in writing for the said purpose; and in case I could send him the same time enough, that he would procure, that the company should hold a general court very soon: therefore I have thought fit to send him this morning early by a merchant who is employed by the Netherlandish East-India company, the inclosed paper, with a translation thereof into the English language; along with which said merchant the said alderman Garraway comes just now to me, and makes report, that they had read my said declaration, and found it proper, to sign the acquittances according to form sent to them, and to procure, that the said act of declaration shall be passed by his highness, under the great seal of England, according to the form as

A. D. 165. we have required, provided that I should write above the underlined words in the said declaration, *nomine dominorum ordinum antedictorum*, and that I under my signature should see my seal. Which having promised him, the directors of the East-India company here will write this very evening to the company under their high mightinesses jurisdiction, that the said acquittances shall be made ready according to their request; and that they will also procure, that the said act of declaration may be passed, in such a manner as is required, without which I have told them plainly, that not a farthing would be paid. However I observe, that it is their intention, that the said acquittances and act of declaration shall be duly passed, before the payment of the first term, but that the same will not be delivered to me before the payment of the last, so that the same shall remain in some neutral hands, of the lord ambassador of France, or of any other foreign minister here. Hereupon I expect their high mightinesses further orders.

Wherewith, &c.

My lord, &c.

(is sign'd)

Westminster, Jan. 1. 1655. [N. S.]

WILLIAM NIEUPOORT.

Viole, *president of Brussels, to Barriere.*

Brussels, the 1st of January 1655. [N. S.]

V. xix. p. 35.

THIS is only to let you know, that I have received yours of the 24th: as for news they are so bad, that I dare not write them to you. There is no money for his highness, nor for particular persons, although there be some come for the earl of Fuensaldagna. We are at a plunge. I am glad his highness will be here on monday next. At his arrival I will speak to him about your affairs. I am sorry I am not able to help you.

A letter of intelligence.

Brussels, the 1st of January 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

V. xxii. p. 39.

THE differences of those of Antwerp do daily encrease; and it is supposed, that the earl of Fuensaldagna dares not appear there as well as the other ministers. A few days since the magistrates had caused one to be imprisoned, who had spoken for the publick good, but they were forced to release him, being threatned by the people. The officers and ministers of justice do all they can to maintain the honour and authority of the king; and the people grow obstinate to give no more impost to the king, if the licenses be not first abolished.

Here are yet no preparations making for the next campaign.

The prince of Condé will be here within few days: he is now at Malines to see his wife.

Extract of the secret register of the states general.

Sabbathi, January 2, 1655. [N. S.]

V. xxi. p. 344.

WAS again produced in the assembly the report of the council of state, dated at the Hague December 30th last past, containing in compliance with their high mightinesses resolution of the 29 and 28 of the said month, an advice, how restitution can be procured in the best manner of the 30 head of cattle, fetched away out of the village Buydec in the district of Boisleduc, committed by those of the garrison of Weert, as likewise in what manner the frauds in the points of convoys and licents, may be best prevented, and as also the insults of the maroding foreign parties. Which being deliberated upon, it was thought meet and resolved, to write to the lord of Brederode governor of the city of Boisleduc, to send thirty troopers of the garrison there, under the command of an able lieutenant or ensign into the said parts, for the time of a month or six weeks, to be disposed of, with the concurrence and advice of the droffard of Craanendoncq, in such places, where these soldiers, to prevent the said frauds and insult, can be of most service. And that to the lord arch-duke Leopold in the most serious terms shall be written, that he would give such effectual orders, and make such regulations, whereby the said restitution

in the speediest way may be done, and the like excesses for the future may not any more be committed. A. D. 1654.

Mercurii, Jan. 2. 1655. [N. S.]

WAS read in the assembly a certain memorial of the council of war, appointed by their high mightinesses for the tryal of the military officers, that might be found guilty of leaving Brasil; and besides a petition presented to them, for and in the name of Sigismundus van Schoppe, late lieutenant general in Brasil, desiring that the suit and process may be duly carryed on against him, and that they in the speediest way may proceed to give a decisive sentence therein, or, that he else provisionally may be released from his confinement, under obligation to reappear at any time, being duly summoned thereunto, *sub poena confessi & convicti*. And whereas the said council of war finds a difficulty to answer to the said petition, as long as their high mightinesses have not resolved upon the considerations, deliver'd by them on the 31st of December last past, viz. whether it is their high mightinesses intention, that notwithstanding the said considerations, the said council of war shall proceed to pronounce sentence against the said Schoppe, on account of what for the present appears against him; the said council of war doth again petition for orders and instructions, in relation to the said considerations; or in case their high mightinesses should be of opinion, that this affair was not yet ripe enough for it, that then the said council of war in the interim and provisionally may be dismissed, till further order of their high mightinesses.

Deliberation being had hereupon, the said memorial and petition was received by the lords of Holland.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, Jan. 2. 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

GOD give you all a good year in England, which is not the common prayer here; yet I see by your two letters, which I had together last night, of the 21st and 24th of last month, it may be a good year to you; but the letters of this day are not yet come. It appears now R. C.'s great hopes of Scotland are vanished by your news of Kinoul, &c. and his hopes of civil wars in England are gone the same way; and so now apprehended by his friends.

Here is serious and fresh motion made of the general peace, in which the queen of Sweden is very solicitous and active; but what that shall produce, I yet know not.

Your fleet in the Mediterranean seas with general Blake we much feared to ruin D. of Guise, who could not tarry so long without being destroyed before. Your second fleet preparing or now ready we fear not, being confident they are not for France, but for Holland, or the Indies; by which we hope a breach betwixt yours and Spain.

As for the treaty of our ambassador Bordeaux, if it comes not to a good end, I can assure you he is undone; and therefore he and all the friends he can make here at court, press to grant all demanded by the protector. This they give credit to. The remora of that treaty you know best at London; and *inter cetera* money matters, of which I need not tell you; only I find Mazarin inclined to dispose of the money raised for a peace with the protector at any rate, if he be not unreasonable; which if found so, we will (*inquit* C. Maz.) sooner begin with Spain.

All Inchiquin's regiment were cast away in the duke of Guise's unfortunate retreat, that enterprize being mad and fatal. The levy to second that expedition is disbanded altogether, as also that of prince Thomas to second the marshal Grancey; and the ambassador extraordinary, that was already to go to Portugal to have the assistance of the king, is not to go. So all is fallen to ground upon the loss of duke de Guise, for which cardinal Mazarin is mad, as also at the great reception of card. de Retz at Rome.

Here is nothing more at present, that I know of, but what you have in the other letter of occurrence. I had nothing to write you the post before, which is the cause you heard not from,

Sir, your's.

A letter

A letter of intelligence from Paris.

Jan. 2. 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

A. D. 1654. **S**INCE my former I received two of your's, but the letters of this day are not yet arrived. We do much apprehend your second fleet, and no less the first, commanded by general Blake now in the Mediterranean seas, as some say, expecting the other fleet. But we have hopes you will order your sea forces towards Holland, where you may have enough to do. However we are fortifying all places near the sea, for fear of any sudden attempt; and especially about Calais and Bologne.

V. xxi. p. 340.

The court is daily busy ordering payment and winter quarters for our soldiers, the peasants making great resistance to receive them. The enemy comes out as yet upon ours in several parties; but now we are informed they paid well for it, for last wednesday at night Mr. de la Tour, maistre de camp of a regiment of horse, brought us fresh news of a defeat of troops of horse of the enemies, that were at Berlin, by the count of Broglio, governor of la Bassée, who slew and took prisoners about 600 of them, among which some considerable officers, whose names we have not as yet. All the rest fled away the best they could.

Wednesday in the afternoon the king had a review of his regiment of guard in Bois de Bologne, near the Louvre, and took notice of those, that passed falsely, and were not of the regiment, only to pass that day, with which the captains were not well pleased.

We have by the last ordinary yesterday arrived from Brest in Bretagne, that the second time some Englishmen landed there, and took away quantities of bestials, and many people prisoners. We wonder how bold they are to come in so to the country.

Prince Thomas sent a courier to the court here yesterday, signifying he had arrived safe in Savoy; whose business we do not yet know, but he gives great hopes to the king, he will prevail with madame royal of Savoy.

It is always reported about the court, that the agreement of the princees will be soon at an end; but yet it is not believed. However madame la princesse de Phalsbourg, sister to the duke of Orleans, arrived at Blois, where she works near his *Altesse Royale* for the said agreement; and the king offers her a million of livres with two years paid, besides her ordinary pension, if she can but advise Orleans to come to court. In the other way the dutchess of Chastillon continues her endeavours for the prince of Condé's agreement, who can more govern him than any man or woman now living. She carries her business very secret and close, that none can imagine what she does, and some hope she might prevail.

Last monday, both the surintendents de finances, Servien and Fouquet, were with the cardinal to give an account of the king's monies taken and disbursed by them and spent, of which the court desires part for themselves of the robbery, in a manner, that each of them shall have but a certain sum in consideration of the time they were in the office; so the cardinal said to Servien, you buy princes houses for your self, and you have not monies to give to the king, when he has occasion for it; because Servien bought Meudon from the duke of Guise, before he parted: but yet it's thought both will concern themselves in contenting the cardinal with some monies, which is all to be expected.

Last thursday mr. de Spinola, extraordinary ambassador from the commonwealth of Genoa, arrived here in pomp; he has not yet demanded audience, but soon will. Here arrived also mr. chevalier de la Mare from the duke of Guise, with the full relation of all that happened to them, of the loss of mr. de Plessy Belliere, contrary winds, and tempestuous weather, which was the cause of their misfortunes; that they could not compass their designs; as also the loss of the ship called Purgatoire, wherein their provisions were, and which is more, one of his commanders called marquis d'Estigio, after having escaped all his enemies, and came into Toulon with his ship of 400 Irish; the ship separated herself in pieces, and the marquis with all that was in the ship were drowned, not one mother's son that escaped. The rest of the ships and galleys are in the isle of St. Margaret, and Guise in Toulon. The said chevalier has orders to propose to the court the re-shipping of the said duke to Naples again; but I do not believe this court will condescend unto it any more. From Bourdeaux we hear of the 26 last month, that they have transported all the enemy's arms and provisions of war into the castle from the town-house; and that the parliament are busy in the process of some, that had a hand in the late plot, to make a public example of some of them, that the seditious might depend no more on the king's mercy, as hitherto, having not punished before those that deserved it. In Catalonia all goes well with ours, our forces being in their winter quarters, and well paid, contented with the honest man, the peasant; they never declared so compleat an affection for the king's service as now. The prince of Conti is still at Montpellier with the states of Languedoc. We hear from Turin of the 21st of last month, that the French

army

JOHN THURLOE ESQ. &c.

41

army are in their winter quarters about Nice de le Paile, and the enemy's about Alexandria; A. D. 1654¹ that the emperor offers to be himself mediator in the difference between Spain and the commonwealth of Genoa; and that Spain has ordered all that was seized upon by his own men of the goods of Genoa to be restored back again, which is much.

It's written from London by the last, that general Blake, since his now coming to the Mediterranean seas, has received moneys and orders to pursue the duke of Guise. Is it true? However Guise escaped this pull.

You have now your letters from Rome; also that his holiness gave as a present to card. de Retz 20000 livres, who has the ordinary pension of banish'd cardinals, 1000 crowns yearly, besides many other things; which is all at present known to, Sir,

Your most real servant.

Cardinal Mazarin to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

MY LORD,

I HAVE received your letters of the 21st and 24th Decem. and have seen all that V. xxi. p. 356. they contained. In the first place I refer myself, as usually, to those of Mr. de Brienne, who will inform you more particularly of the intentions of his majesty upon the essential points, and the conduct you are to use. I shall only add at this time, that methinks you ought not to omit the courtesy, wherewith Mr. de Guise in the Mediterranean sea and the commander de Nuchefes in the ocean have restored each of them the English ships, that were fallen in their hands, as hath been also done by us several other times in the like rencounter, whilst that in the mean time the English ships do continue their depredations upon the subjects of the king; and that Blake did boast aloud, that he went to see the duke of Guise, with order to fight him wheresoever he should meet him.

I am not surprized with that, which hath been signified unto you concerning a peace with France hinted by the Spanish ambassador to your friend. It is very well known, that they do not want for artifices; and it is not very difficult to discern, that that proposition is one to engage us to make some halt, whereof they would make a great advantage, both in hindering the proceedings of the treaty begun with you, and the carrying on our preparations against them; for I assure you, the ambassador of Spain hath no more power than myself, on the behalf of the king his master, to make any such proposition; and that the Spaniards are more obstinate than ever for the continuation of the war; and since they do refuse to give that power to the archduke, and to those ministers they have in Flanders, I leave to you to judge whether they will give it to Cardenas. Wherefore you may be pleased to take care you are not catch'd in that snare; and withal give me leave to tell you, that although the ambassador of Spain should not act sincerely, and not simply to surprise us, as it is most certain he doth, yet it would be no wonder, that the said propositions have been confirmed unto you, since the news of what hath past in the kingdom of Naples, for that enterprise is to be called a disgrace, it is only for having had for forty days contrary winds, which hindered us from landing in those places where we might have made some progress, since as to the rest every one knoweth, that the report alone of that enterprise did cause, that all the last summer the Spaniards were not able either to send money or corn out of the kingdom for Catalonia, Milan, Flanders, or other places, as they used to do; which is not the least advantage that we propounded ourselves to get by that enterprise.

Paris, the 2 of Jan. 1654. [N. S.]

A letter from the English East-India company, to the Netherland East-India company.

HONOURED SIRS,

TOGETHER with your letter of the 18th of this month we have received a copy of your V. xxi. p. 210. letters directed to the governor, general, and council at Batavia, as also to the governor in Banda, for which we do heartily thank you. And although we might easily have raised some scruple upon the reservedness of your order, and the preciseness of your country, which we hoped would have come forth in larger terms; yet however it did please his excellency the lord ambassador Nieuport to assure us of the sincerity of your intention and real performance towards us, not only in the payment of the money ordered by the arbitrators, but also in the upright and just delivering up on the island of Poleron to those, who shall be sent by us to receive it. Whereby all jealousy and scruples were so far removed from us, that we are now willing to sign all such acts, as Mr. Lucas

Vol. III.

M

Luce

A. D. 1654. Luce did formerly give us a copy of in your behalf; and you shall not only receive contentment from us therein, but we shall also according to your desire procure of his highness the lord protector an act of ratification, and what more shall be judged reasonable to be done by us; and to be delivered to those, whom you shall think fit and appoint; and that upon the payment of the money to us here.

Signed,

London, 22 December, 1654.

W. COCKAINE,
GEO. ANDRIES,
THO. ANDREW,
W. GARAWAY,
W. RIDER.

An intercepted letter of lieutenant general Middleton, to lieutenant col. Mac Gregour.

NOBLE SIR,

V.xxii.p.309.

THough you cannot bot be afflicted, yet yow will not wonder at the subject of this letter. My lord Reay hath disapointed us in not keeping his rendezvouz, and my lord Seaforth, Sir George Monro, and diverse others baselie deserted us, we being readie to march with M^cCleoid, Glengarrie, and their people. Yesterday I called ane counsell of warre, where we most seriousslie weighed and fullie debated everie thinge relating to his majestie's service, and having found that the treacherie and desertion of many of those, who had joyned in it, and were eminently considerable, have reduced the busines to such a condition, that we were forced to conclude it impossible now to carie it on with the meanest hope of advantage; and withall finding it very improbable, if not altogether impossible, to gett the advice of yourselfe, and all the noblemen and officers, which we most earnestly wished in this sad exigent, that everie man's judgment might have gone along with ours, without manifest prejudice in many respects: it was unanimously concluded necessarie to send for a passe for some persons, to treat for the laying doune of armes with Monke, and to desire a cessation rather than foolishly to sacrifice the lyves and fortunes of those, who have most loyallie and noblie resisted and contemned all difficulties, temptations, and discouragements, and ar yet most willing to spend their last blood in this caus; and so in human appearance præclude as farre as in us lyes all future hopes of this kingdome's libertie. I shall not need now to insift upon particulars; only we ar resolved, if fair and honorable conditions be denied, never to abandone one another, but to perish altogether, being perfectly confident you will share with us. All that ar now in armes shall be comprehended in the agreement, and every thing sought and stood upon, that can reasonably be expected. I have sent for a cessation, and doe desyre, that in the meane tyme yow may draw as neare together as yow can conveniently, both to send me your particular desyres, and to be in readines to meete and joyne with us eather to consult or act, as wee shall have occasion, and yow shall receive advertisement. Send your letters to Glengarrie, and they will be safely delyvered to

Grenelg, December
23, 1654.

Your freend and servant,
JO. MIDDLETONE.

Examination of John Corbin.

V.xxi.p.368.

JOHN Corbin, of Aymour, in the parish of Kidermister, in the county of Worcester, gent. saith as followeth; that travelling upon the road, near Bewdly, in the parish of Ripsford, in the county of Worcester, and passing through a wood, the common road lying on the other side of the hedge, three men passed by the said wood side in the road, who were well horfed, and armed with swords (only one of them he cannot say had any sword) and passing along, the said persons in the hearing of the examinant (being as he conceives unobserved by them) had a discourse among themselves to the purpose following; that is to say, that the soldiers quartered in the country were but few; and that the way to deal with them was to fall upon them in their quarters; and upon such an insurrection, they would draw their forces out of London; and then they were to rise in London behind them. And the question being asked by one of them, what must be the season, it was answered by another of them, in or presently after Christmas; and the reason given was, because then the ways would be so deep they would not draw their carriages out of Scotland: That the time he heard this discourse was about 3 weeks since, and that he heard the same passing by, being himself travelling towards his home, and so meeting the

the said persons; but who these persons or any of them were, he knows not, nor whence they came, nor whither they intended to go; but the road lay betwixt Bewdley and Clobber, and is a convenient road for Ludlow principally, and several other parts. A. D. 1654.

This examination taken
23 Decemb. 1654. by
W. JESSOP.

JOHN CORBIN.

He farther saith, that 2 of these persons seemed to be well habited, the other but ordinarily, and he conceives that two of them were aged about 40 years, the other appeared younger, but he could not certainly judge of their age, faces, or hair, it then beginning to be dusky and about sun set.

JOHN CORBIN.

A briefe state of the accompt what the forces in Scotland amount to, to the 24 of this instant December 1654, what is assigned towards payment thereof, and what upon the whole is wanting to compleat them to the 24 of December instant 1654. viz.

	l.	s.	d.	
THERE was short in the assignment for pay of the said forces to the 26 of June 1654.	000604	18	09	In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.
There was (in part of what should have paid them to the said 26 June) charged on the receipt at Goldsmith's-Hall out of delinquents estates 23200 l. 9 s. 8 d. which by reason of the turning that revenue into the Exchequer is not had, and therefore still wanting to the said forces, viz.	023200	09	08	
The pay of the established forces in Scotland for 3 months, commencing the 26 of June 1654. and determining 18 Sept. 1654. 35802 l. 10 s. 5 d. per month.	107407	11	03	
The pay of the said forces for 3 months and an halfe commencing 18 Sept. 1654. and determining 24 Decem. following.	120962	08	01½	
Six months pay and an halfe for 3 troupes of dragoons, officers, fire and candle for severall guarriions not established, at 1100 l. per menssem.	007100	00	00	
Six months for fortifications and other contingent charges, at 3900 l. per menssem.	023400	00	00	
The committee for the army have given warrants out of the assessments of England on the first 3 months, commencing the 24 June 1654. for	072376	19	02	
And out of the 3 months, commencing 24 Sept. 1654.	064882	16	00	
Out of the money which lay in the Tower and had been assigned for Ireland.	040000	00	00	
The assessment of Scotland, 7500 l. per menssem, for 6 months, ending 25 Decem. 1654.	045000	00	00	
	504935	02	11½	
Soe that there will be wanting to make good the pay of the forces in Scotland to the 25 of December aforesaid 1654.	060415	12	07½	

A letter of intelligence from Turin.

January 4. 1655. [N. S.]

THE letters from Florence assure us, that the archiduke Leopold goeth to Spain to marry the infanta, and that don John of Austria is to command in his place in the low countries. V. xxi. p. 294.

The troopes of that army have begun to march ever since thurfdlay last they are divided in 8 bands, whereof 3 have already entered in France, and the others will follow without interruption.

Mr. John

A letter of intelligence from Cologne.

January 5. 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

A. D. 1654. **BY** this last post I received nothing from you, the post of England being not arrived in due time. By this post I expected a dismis with a little money, as I writ for in V. xxi. p. 540. three or four former letters; but to my great discontent he came not. So till next I must have patience, notwithstanding all trouble and danger, the worst I hope being past. Of news not much; all in the same condition. It was here by R. C. and his council concluded, that the duke of Gloucester should nor come hither at all, but be sent to Holland to his sister; for in the beginning they thought themselves all lost for ever, and to lose all their parties in England, if Gloucester were catholick; but now seeing matters go smoothly in parliament, as you and others have writ in several letters, and that all the catholicks here in Rome, France, Spain, &c. do speak against R. C. and disaffect him for hindering his brother to be a catholick, he seems to repent what he did, especially in removing Gloucester from the place, wherein he was; and so he was sent to Holland from Brussells incognito. Ormond goes not with him, lest he should be affronted in Holland, by orders from England, and so will be here shortly, being now upon his journey.

The plate stolen, as in my former, is not yet found. There was one servant committed upon suspicion, but now at liberty, nothing being proved against him, but for which you may laugh there: masses were caused to be said to St. Anthony of Padua to recover the plate again. R. C. bestowed a fair English horse upon the duke of Newburgh for a new year's gift; but I know not yet, what the duke shall bestow upon him. It is thought he will present some plate to him. The said duke paid not one penny yet of what he promised in the Dyet of Ratibon; nor the emperor much of his one hundred thousand crowns. The electors of Mentz, Triers, and Cologne, gave the most part of what they promised; and the electors of Brandenburg and Saxony not very much yet. They have an excuse, that they levy soldiers, their great charge, &c.

The last express that came from Middleton, is returning this week into Scotland; where, as your letters and others import, all are submitting, and matters come to nothing on R. C. his part, which I well believe; and that more will submit; but I promise you it is, *ex industria*, and out of design. They do it by allowance from hence, for many reasons presented as well from England as Scotland. This you will find in the end to be truth.

The lord Taaf went to Dusseldorp last week; he expects to receive some monies there from the duke of Newburgh, to bring a regiment of Irish to the said duke's service, who levies men to defend himself against the elector of Brandenburg and others, that intend to take from him the lands of Juliers and Bergues by force, since by course of law they cannot.

The elector of Cologne is expected here to morrow, being *dies regum*, because in that feast he is required by his place to be present in the great church, and for his presence he has from the chapter one hundred gold ducats; but I am of opinion, he will not come, by occasion of the great difference betwixt him and this city, and by reason of R. C. being here, to whom the said elector shewed no courtesy during his abode here.

P. Rupert is expected here shortly from Heidelberg. He is much longed for, and R. C. and his council fear much Gloucester will not be permitted to live in Holland by the protector's means, which is all this week produces known to,

Sir, your's.

A letter of intelligence.

V. xxi. p. 452. **YOU** must not be angry if I tax you of unkindness, this being my third, since I received any from you; and, believe me, I had been very sullen, had not I received orders from Kimbould to thank you for your diligence concerning him, with assurance, that he would do it by himself unto you the next; and upon this you may depend, and accordingly expect. The French court hath had severall debates as to war or peace with England: the results were for warr (and upon some intelligence by the last posts from Mr. Bordeaux and presumptions they may finde the artificial measures as were formerly extended to the Dutch, in expectations of better bargaines) have procured the promulgation of itt, which they were foe nigh unto, as granting letters of reprisall, had not the keeper of the scales satisfied the court, that would have bine equivalent to the declaring warr. By that intelligence we are made beleeve, the duke of Guise hath made his retreat with noe great loss, and that before this he may be safe in France, notwithstanding the shippes from Majorca under Blake endeavoured very much their interception. Duke de Longueville hath been at Paris greatly complemented by the cardinall, and is returned to his

his government of Normandiè, in order to the settling of the ports and sea affairs of A. D. 1654. his government, which is said to be in soe great order through all France, that peace or warr with us is indifferent unto them. Count Harcourt delivers upp his government of Brisack and all Alfatia to the cardinall, who intends to keep itt in his owne hands. The duke of Gloucester went from Antwerp saturday last for Holland, to his sister, with whom he is to remaine. His elder brother is still at Collen, where are (as I am credibly informed) great dispatches for Scotland, Willmott having the care of most for that business, and is at present on his way for Hamburg, and those northern ports, which lye convenient for itt. That king will not be out of action long, if observations from hence are to be credited.

The queene of Sweede is at Bruxells much complemented by the Spaniard, to the admiration of all wise men. Don Antonio Peidmontello was ambassadour extraordinary unto her with many presents. Some vaine persons reporte, that after she hath made a journey to Italy, which shee begins the latter end of February, shee shall have the gouernment of the low countrys, least shee may want pensions for fiddlers, players, and buffoones, her jewells and greatest treasure of that kinde being already in lavender.

The French hath taken a small peice neere le Baiffèe from the Spaniards. It was defended 500 Irish, who are all kil'd or prisoners. When ther reliefe was urged, the count Fuenfaldaine answered, the Italian and Spanish forces were soe few, that he would keep them for the security of the country, which is indeed in much disorder, they refusing to pay severall taxes, in soe much that all the artillery in the fort of Antwerp is planted against that city. I have now tickled you with newes: if this doth not draw you into answer, I will hereafter despaire; yett seriously I must assure you, yours unto mee doth unto you a great deal of right; which if you still neglect, enjoy your humour for all him, who is

Your friend and servant.

5 Jan. 1655.
25 Dec. 1654.

The superscription.

For Mr. Wm. Guordon, att Mr. Josuah Draynor's
apothecary, att the 3 half moones neare Yorke
House in the Strand, London.

To Monsr. Minard secretary to the French ambassador in England.

SIR,

THIS is by order of my lord ambassador, who went out in the morning to sollicit his arrears, and to provide for his return into England, who is not yet come back. He bid me tell you, that he received your letter, and doth hope to see you very suddenly: here is no news at court; all the time is spent in feasting and mirth, by reason of the presence of the duke of Modena and Francis duke of Loraine, who are highly treated at court.

Paris, 5 Jan. 1655. [N. S.]

General Monck to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Received your letter of the 21st instant, and I shall desire you to acquaint his highness, that I shall not bee wanting in any thing to secure business heere. And thus much you may assure him concerning some new pamphlets, I shall bee carefull to hinder the printing of them all I may. I doubt not, by the blessing of God, I shall secure affaires heere; for I have clapped up some officers and some troopers already, and shall secure some more. For newes, there is little. I hope I shall settle Scotche and English business heere to my lord's content. I remaine,

Sir,

Dalkeith, 26 December,
1654.

Your most affectionat servant,

GEORGE MONCK.

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

General Monck to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

A. D. 1654.
V. xxi. p. 566.

THIS is humbly to acquaint your highness, how farr I have proceeded since the receipt of your highnesses last letter. I have sent orders to secure coll. Overton. I have given orders to major Bramston of coll. Morgan's regiment, major Holmes of my owne regiment, and lieutenant Christopher Keamer of captain Simnell's troope in coll. Thomlinson's regiment, to repaire to your highness, being they are men, who are not so well affected to the government, as I could wish them.

And if there were any such designe, as your intelligence is of, I am sure coll. Overton could doe nothing in it without the assistance of the two majors before named: one of them, namely major Holmes, (when he was goeing) received the originall letter, of which the inclosed is a copy, and hee was soe honest as to send it to me, which I thought fit to make knowne to your highness. I keepe the originall letter to bee made use of against those, who subscribed it. I desire to knowe what to doe with those subscribers after being secured.

I humbly desire your highness to lett the three officers, who are ordered to come to your highness, knowe they were sent for by your Highnesses order, for they knowe nothing to the contrary, but they were soe sent for. They being out of the way, your business is secure enough. For commissary generall Whalley's regiment, they are quartered soe farr in Caithness, and the waies are soe ill, that it is impossible for them all to come this winter; and if the commissary generall please to write to his major, hee will, I beleieve, let him know as much.

Major generall Lambert's two troopes, that were in the Highlands, are now passed towards Kelfoe, for England; and (as I writ in my last by the exprefs) Sir William Constable's companys are not to bee expected at Hull these 14 daies, though they are uppon their marche, for the wether and wayes are very bad. When I have secured coll. Overton, I intend to putt something to the officers to signe, declaratory of their firmeness to the government. I desire to know what to doe with those, who refuse to signe it. There shal bee no care or diligence wanting heere, whereby I may exprefs myself,

Dalkeith, 26 Decemb.
1654.

Your highness's
most faithfull and
most humble servant,
GEORGE MONCK.

Inclosed in the preceding. Col. Overton to general Monck.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

V. xxi. p. 560.

I Received this day a letter from Mr. Clarke, dated the 19th current; in the later end of which hee signifies, that hee cannot give me any accompt of the grounds of your sending for me hether; but receiving noe letter from your honour, I conceived, that either there was some mistake of Mr. Clarke's, or that your letter miscarried. I thought good therefore to send away this with all expedition; that soe I might understand your honour's pleasure and commands, which (as soon as I receive them) shall speedily be put in execution by,

Aberdeen, 25 Decem.
1654.

Right honourable,
your honour's most assured
faithfull servant,
ROBERT OVERTON.

Superscription.
*For the right honourable general
Monck, at the head-quarters
in Scotland.*

Major

An intercepted letter of col. Overton to a friend of his.

DEAR SIR,

I Bless the Lord I do remember you and yours (by whom I am much remembred) so far as I am able in every thing. I know right well, you and others do it much more for me, and pray, dear Sir, do it still. Heave me up upon the wings of your prayers to him, who is a God hearing prayers and granting requests. Intreat him to enable me to stand to his truth, which I shall not do, if he deject or forsake me; which I know would not a little trouble you, and my many other christian friends. Yet when I remember the many past experiences I have had of the Almighty's mercys and constant kindnesses towards me, I have hopes he will not now leave and forsake me in my most needfull time of trouble: the devil, like a swallow, may shew himself a summer freind; but God is for winter storms of tryal; and then he most assuredly makes our utmost extremities his happiest and most helpfull opportunities. I have in the late warrs resisted the common enemy of my country (through the Almighty's mercy) to blood and frequent hazards of life; and since (blessed be his name) he hath carried me through reproaches, good and bad reports, loss of places, preferments, and rewards: but now perhaps the Lord will a little more shew his strength in my weakness, and try me with the temptation of skin for skin. If he do, I shall declare before hand, I shall fall, if he support me not by the right hand of his power; yet if he enable me truly to say, *master save me*, I am sure I shall not perish. He will, I trust, give patience and perseverance. I do endeavour to eye his glory, hoping that he will both quicken and quiet my spirit; and when men have spoiled me of all my martial places and profits, God can a thousand times repair the loss or those losses with the peace, which passeth all understanding. Or if I be called to seal the cause of God and my country with my blood, by suffering death, or by bearing any testimony to the interest of my nation and the despised truths of these times, he is able to support and save me, as the sun to shine upon me; yet all is to apply and believe, to have recourse to experiences; but above all to a reconciled God in Christ will do it. Oh that I could wrestle with him in prayer, as some Jacobs do at this day. And yet a father hears his infant's voice as tenderly as those of stronger attainments. The Lord inable us, that though we be led into temptations, we may be delivered from all evil. I suppose by this you hear Sir William Constable's regiment is marching for Hull; as also that I am sent for to London, col. Morgan coming down to command the northern forces. I wait for orders to march hence, and hear they are coming to me. God willing, they shall be readily obeyed. If I can but keep faith and a good conscience, I shall assuredly finish my course with joy. In the interim I trust I shall not need to fear what man can justly do unto me, for any thing I have done since my coming into Scotland. Therefore, my friend, in that respect let not your heart be troubled, but by your prayers commend me to his care and custody, who like a tender father leads his by the hand (as he did Israel) through all dark places, strengthening us in all our weaknesses. In the interim expect no more from me than I receive from my father, to whose care and eternal conservation I commend you, and remain

Aberdeen, December
26. 1654.

Your's, whilst I am,

ROBERT OVERTON.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, January 6. 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

THEY still fear here a war with England, and do very much suspect the design of your fleets, which have caused them to guard their coasts, to the end they may be in a readiness to defend themselves, but especially those of Xaintonge and Guienne, whither they have sent some new troops; the governors thereof giving fresh alarms to draw more men and money to their assistance. This giveth a new pretence to the financiers to raise money, and to oppress the people. Every day doth produce some farther particular of the romance of the duke of Guise. The merchants, who sold him all the ribbons for the ladies of Naples, which being brought back again, they have been fain to take them again with some loss to the duke, who was no sooner arrived at Toulon, but he caused a ball to be danc'd, and he himself was masked, giving thereby to understand, that he is one of the men of the world the most insensible of misfortune; which he doth attribute particularly to the ill conduct of Mr. de Foleville, one of his officers, who drew the envy of the people upon him by his plundering of them at his first landing in Naples.

A letter

A. D. 1654.

In the possession
of the
right honour-
able Philip
lord Hard-
wicke, lord
high chancel-
lor of Great-
Britain.

V. xxi. p. 478.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, January 6. 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

A. D. 1654.
V. xxi. p. 480.

SINCE my former no letters arrived from England, by which we much longed, if they came, to hear of your fleet, of what your parliament doth, and of our ambassador's farther proceedings in his treaty; whereof I can say nothing since my former; but to confirm he is undone, if he cannot compass that peace, and Mazarin will give any thing to have it. I was lately where the pope's nuncio and the ambassador of Venice met, and had conference a long time together; first of the great desires Mazarin had for peace with the protector; and next, what small hopes were at present of the general peace. One of the company said, he was credibly informed, that the general peace would suddenly be driven on by the means of the queen of Swedeland; but both the nuncio and Venice ambassador answered, that if there were any thing towards a general peace, they should know of it, having often laboured much for it; and that by strict orders from their respective masters; but could not prevail, and that they were assured, when any thing more should be of it, they as mediators should know before others. And as I writ to you formerly, the answer the queen of Swedeland's cousin had from this court, after he had imparted the queen's desires, and shewed the king of Spain his commission for it, was, that her majesty should be with a great obligation admitted to mediate the peace with the other mediators, provided Condé should not be included, &c. of this I gave you so large account formerly, that I'll say no more of it.

Some troops are sent into Bretagne, to prevent the English landing, who are much feared, I assure you, and more will follow. What farther shall happen, I know not, but I do, that I am,

Sir, your's, &c.

A letter of intelligence from Paris.

6 January 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

V. xxi. p. 484.

THE English post is not yet arrived here since my former, which we expect to hear what is become of your fleet or the land army a preparing there. Hence we have not much of consequence since my last to you; only of the 8000 men Guise brought with him out of France and other places to sea, he has not now 3000, all being lost and left sick in divers places; and those that arrived at Toulon are infected for the most part by a hot fever in a manner, that they must be transported to the isles of Hieres, for fear they should spoil the country.

The said duke did excuse himself for his misfortunes, and so did the commander Paul, that he could not assist the duke in time of need, being tossed up and down by the storms, and more that he was not payed. Likewise the grand master of Malta sent his excuse to the king, because he could not receive the army of Guise into his island, having made his treaty before with both the crowns, that he would not receive nor admit either of them. He writ lately to the Pope, desiring he should cause all christian princes to join together, and make a general peace, that afterwards they might be able to resist the Turks, which are now making great forces to come into the Mediterranean seas.

We are informed, that the English do continue their ordinary courses upon the coasts of Bretagne, and landed some at Breau in Bas Bretagne, which brought with them what they met withal.

The king 15 days ago commanded the treasurer of the parliament of Bretagne to pay the taxes and impositions, as well as in other places in the kingdom, but the said parliament gave an arrest against that, which caused now the king to interdict that parliament of the functions; but notwithstanding they do not obey, which caused orders to be given to the said troops to march into the country of Anjou, to force them to obey the orders of their king; that is the pretext; but the troops might have some other designs against the English, in case they would attempt to land in some place in France, either in Guienne or Bretagne.

The pope's nuncio here complained to the king of an article that was printed in the last Gazettee, that the pope continued always against France, being ill affected, having now received card. de Retz, being declared here criminal *de leze majestie*. However the lord nuncio was not satisfied to his desire; and it is thought his holiness will excommunicate the grand vicar of the cathedral church of Nostre-dame, for exercising the archbishop's functions by orders from the king, and not from the archbishop; which, if it comes, will cause a great deal of trouble; for the French sure will say, they will not obey the pope.

It is thought the duke of Orleans will in the end come to court, if his daughter will not hinder it. The duke of Amville parted for Blois to that purpose; which is all known at present to, A. D. 1654.

Sir, your most real servant.

Duke Guise will be here within 4 days.
You have your's from Rome now
by chance arrived yesterday night late.

Chanut, the French ambassador in Holland, to Bordeaux the French ambassador in England.

Hague, the 8th of January 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

WE did blame the winds the last week, but they have not been so violent, nor always so contrary, to keep your post from coming. Every one doth make his conjecture at it; the most common opinion is, that the ports are shut during the departure of the fleet. In general I perceive, that all the merchants do fear, that there hath happened something, which doth obstruct your negotiation, and which may hinder their commerce. There are some persons that write to me out of France, that the duke of Guise was very happy in that he did not prosper in the kingdom of Naples, by reason that Blake joined with the Spaniards, and had orders to go and find out the fleet to fight them. Amongst the rest of the points, upon which the assembly of Holland is summoned against the 12th of this month, there is an article for the setting forth 36 ships of war, besides those that are ready in the states service; and another, which doth concern the interest of the lord Beverning, to whom the lords of Holland do believe, that the other provinces have done injury in not admitting of him to his charge of treasurer, which hath been given him, till such time that he and his colleagues have satisfied the generality upon their negotiation at London. V. xxi. p. 516.

Holland will have one pull more at it in his behalf; and certainly he is much afflicted; for this stop doth much obstruct the marriage, which was promised him, upon what was presupposed, that he should be treasurer general.

M. de Bye resident for the king of Poland hath orders to go for England; before he goeth, I will write to you what I shall learn of the subject of his voyage.

Just now the post arrived, and hath brought me two of your letters. I do not think my lord, that Cicero, as eloquent as he was, could change any expression so many ways as you have been forced to invent, to tell the court and your friends, that your negotiation is still in the same condition. I should be in the same trouble, if I should write of our renewing of alliance every week; but I do imitate these lords; they speak nothing to me of it, nor I to others.

They write from Brussels, that the queen of Sweden doth intend to pass this winter in that city. She hath sent for her goods from Antwerp. I am very much troubled, that princess doth declare herself so much affected to the Spaniard. She hath done it particularly in a letter, which she writes me in answer to a supplication I had made her, to give me leave to refute the false reports, which had been spread, that I had been at Antwerp to desire her, that she would mediate a peace for us with Spain. Her answer was very high and sharp. I did not think fit to reply, but to conceal it, and to dissemble, till such time that she shewed her letter at Brussels (as I was informed) then indeed I was obliged to return an answer respect. † Chanut
Mem. III.
484. &c.

A Letter of intelligence from the Hague.

SIR,

THESE festival days render us very barren of news. They have thought fit at last to write to the archduke concerning the plunder at Buydell by the men of the prince of Condé. Some were of opinion to use retortion; but Holland being desirous and interested V. xxi. p. 524.

to observe the peace, will not make such haste, declining (with 139) all that may engage Spain
Orange party

into a war; and those of 145 on the contrary do advise and drive to no other end than to

VCL. III.

O

demonstrate,

A. D. 1654. demonstrate, how requisite it is to have a captain general ; and although that is done properly for the advancing of the prince of Orange, yet these things do greatly hinder him ; first his age ; secondly his debts, for the princesses his mother and grandmother, and the interests do so devour his revenue, that his debts do daily encrease ; so that at present they have proposed to put down his table, and to board him with the princess royal. Item, they have resolved to take an account and inventory of all his debts and revenue, which is ordinarily of those inheritances that are insolvable. Item, they begin to speak of disputing the princess royal's dowry, giving thereby to understand, that the prince is to have his legitimate. In the mean time they have sold some of his estate, and more is yet to be sold. The mischief is, that the king of Spain doth not pay him ; those of Amsterdam will like-
good Hollanders

wife have their two millions back again. In short, say 173, what aid can we expect from one, that is so much in debt? It was seen, that the duke of Guise could raise money upon his estate, to do service to France : but if this state were in a war, it would require a head, who though he wanted wit, yet at least he should have money. But this young prince hath neither
good Hollanders the Orange party

the one nor the other, which doth cause 173 to laugh, in that at 145. *Sed acrior illos cura*
Orange party

tenet ; it is seen, that 145 do busy themselves very much about the question of the judicature of the generality ; namely, upon the occasion of this process, which doth concern Schop, to
the Orange party

whom it doth belong to judge the two politicks, Schonenberg and Haex : 145 do all of them pretend, that the generality is to judge those, that are in the service, and under oath of the generality ; either military or civil : but Holland doth perceive, that that would be a means to involve and engage the Lord Beverning and Nieuport in the judicature of the
Orange party

generality ; which would prove their ruin. And these 145 will not rest, till they have redressed or annulled the seclusion, either one way or other. The lord Beverning, seeing the fragility of his commission for the charge of treasurer general, doth all that he can to be of the council.

That business contained in the resolution of the 19th December, is the chiefest point, upon which the assembly of the states of Holland is to meet the 12th of this month ; as also in regard of the Socinians, who do very much encrease ; for the magistrates, to take
Orange party

away from the ministers (who are the most part 145) all manner of cause of being found fault withal by them about religion, do all what they can to make continual search after those of the Roman and Socinian religion.

The lord of Bye, resident for the king of Poland here, is to go for England on the behalf of the said king, to compliment and congratulate the lord protector ; but in effect to instigate the lord protector against the Muscovites, to the end that by a fleet he cause him to visit Archangel, and revenge the English nation, whom the great duke of Muscovy hath banished, upon the request and desire of the lord Culpepper, agent on the behalf of the king of Scotland. The said king of Poland gives to the protector the title of *serenissimo principi*. If the lord protector do suffer himself to be induced to molest the Muscovites, that will banish the English for ever, and do good to the Dutch nation and other traders ; yea to the French, for these nations will be thereby the better established, and the English will not have forgot, that the king of Poland hath caused a collection to be made for the king of Scotland. However it is said, that the taking of Archangel would not be difficult. They do proceed now so slowly against Schop, that the said Schop hath petitioned to be released under a proviso not to escape *sub pana confessi & convicti* ; or else he doth pray, that they would do him speedy justice. The judges delegates have seconded him, declaring they can proceed no farther, unless they will advance as far the trial against Schonenberg and Haex, as they have done against Schop. Holland (who are to meet suddenly) have held that in suspense ; but in these things they have their reflection upon the lords Beverning and Nieuport.

Prince Maurice is still here. He doth seem to wish, that this state would apply themselves to the business of the levies in Westphalia ; which notwithstanding the peace of Bremen do not cease ; and for that end hath given this secret advice No. I. But Holland doth not hearken to any thing, that tendeth to imbroiling. At Rotterdam they are jealous of the French consul, in regard they conceive that it may make a diversion in the commerce. In effect it is a novelty ; and Holland had rather have the trade, both in France and here, than to leave the said commerce to the French ; and since they do treat foreigners here as those that are in want, the office of consul is superfluous. Here are come commissioners from East-Friesland, as well as from the states ; but those of Embden, instead of coming, have writ a letter of excuse. In effect, those of Embden will do all that they
can

can not to lose the entertainment of the garrison of 600 men, which those of the states of East-Friezland paying, those of the city have no direct disposition or collection of charges over them. A. D. 1654.

I am your humble servant.

8 January 1655. [N. S.]

A letter of intelligence.

Hague, 8 Jan. 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

THIS is the third time from England we have notice in our councils to have a care V. xxi. p. 542. our transactions be secret, for that we did nothing, but was presently known in England, be it never so secret. For this cause three or four clerks here are removed within this month; for it seems some still in London are more friends to this state than they are to England; and though you now be at peace with the provinces, 'tis no matter you should know of their councils, for the peace is purely for their interest here, and not of any affection to England. Of news we have not much at present. The ambassador Nieupoort continues his letters out of London, with much modesty, representing the proceedings daily of parliament, as also of the protector; and his own addresses and conferences with secretary Thurloe about maritime affairs and other particular business. Mr. Beverning is here in the same state, displeased that he cannot get his patent for the treasury.

The differences concerning the judicature of the politic officers for the business of the Recif in Brasil grow daily higher among the provinces, that of Holland insisting constantly that they shall be judged by the generality, and the others by the province, whereof they are natives. And the other provinces do still oppose, but will have all try'd by the generality, thereby always intending to have a precedent for the questioning of ambassadors Beverning and Nieupoort, for their negotiation apart with the protector in England.

The faction of the prince of Orange sticks close to the rest of the provinces in this occasion; and the predicators or preachers thereof work very much upon the people in the behalf of the said faction; and the said preachers are very much discontented, and resent deeply the new sect of Socinianism, which is like to be introduced, and bears great sway in the province of Holland, and assented to by most there: yet some of them do what they can to give satisfaction to the ministers, as well of Holland, as of the other provinces.

The differences of the province of Overysell are in the same state, and no fresh resuscitation in the faction of Orange. Here are no other news, that concern England, but merchants news, which I refer to merchants, being always,

Sir, your's, &c.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

SIR,

THE true intention of the lord de Bye, who is to go for England on the behalf of the king of Poland, is to incite the lord protector against the Muscovite; but to make a V. xxi. p. 508. Cromwell

treaty with 130 he hath no order. He hath two letters of credit; underneath one of them is, *serenitatis vestrae bonus amicus, Johannes Rex*; under the other is simply *Johannes Rex*; whereof he is to make use *pro re nata*. The superscription is *serenissimo principi Olivario Cromwello protectori Angliae*, with an omission, *Scotiae & Hiberniae*.

Friseland

Those of 108 have again proposed the inclosed writing. It is to be believed, that the other provinces will also add something, every one according to their humours and inclinations; Holland without doubt contrary; the others according to their fancy; but Zea-

prince's party

land to please their people and 145, and Overysell, as having already chosen prince William, Friseland

will seriously insert with and for 108. Guelderland and Utrecht will be moderate; Groningen is absent.

8 January 1655. [N. S.]

John

John de Witt to Nieupoort.

Amsterdam, January 8, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

A. D. 1654.
V. xxi. p. 512.

SINCE my last of the first of this month I have received no letters from your lordship in regard the two last posts are not yet arrived; and being still here at Amsterdam have much matter to write to you.

We do long here very much after the negotiation between France and England, and the tedious delay of that business doth give great suspicion to a great many.

To-morrow I go for the Hague.

Boreel, the Dutch ambassador in France, to the states general.

Paris, 8 January 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

V. xxi. p. 504.

THERE is this week an express to be sent to the lord ambassador Bordeaux, with the last and final resolution and intention of this king, either to conclude, or otherwise to break off the treaty, without any farther delay. The first of the two will be the more acceptable here.

The miscarriage of the design of the duke of Guise is attributed to the contrary winds and foul weather, that happened for a long time together; so that he was forced to land at Castelmare, he having no order to land there.

Mr. de Lionne is still at Marseilles; he expects farther orders from this court before he departs.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to cardinal Mazarin.

MY LORD,

V. xxi. p. 500.

ACCORDING to the order of your Em. I have concluded the treaty for the raising of 2000 Scots with coll. Lyon. He would have gone into France to look after the payment of his money; but I have prevailed with him to go for Scotland, that so he might lose no time, and that his majesty would take care for the payment thereof. It is very requisite, that soldiers should be transported in the months of Feb. and March, &c.

8 Jan. 1655. [N. S.]

Bordeaux to Minard his secretary.

Jan. 8. 1655. [N. S.]

V. xxi. p. 496.

I MAKE account to send over with the very first an express; and if so be, that before his arrivall my father be in a condition to understand affairs, you may tell him, that I expect a last answer from my commissioners upon the accomodation, which doth now only depend upon a word. All the rest is agreed; but that is of such consequence, that I cannot agree to it. You may go to the earl of Brienne, and signify unto him, that I did expect till this to have heard from the protector; and that I make an account to send an express to morrow or the next day, and give him an account at large. The sickness of my father hindered me from writing to day.

Mr. John

Mr. John Brooke to the protector.

MOST EXCELLENT HIGHNES,

I HOLD it my duty to informe your highnes of any matter, which happens to my knowledge, that may have but the least pretence of evil concernment to the publique peace. I doe therefore hereby humbly signify to your highnes, that there is a certayne captain, who was of the late King of Scots army, and his brother, that have under false names insinuated themselves into the garrison of Carlile, the one calling himselfe Greene, the other Purfe, whereas both their names are Marbury. There they have continued as private souldiers since May last. This cam to my notice by the discovery of two letters from them subscribed with the aforementioned names, which letters I have to produce. And if I bee not mistaken, I doe verily beleve, that there is an agent, one alsoe of the bed-chamber to the pretended king, in or about London, who bore the office of a coll. by name Rodger Whitley, allyed to that Gerrard, that had conspired evil against your highnes person. I doe but conjecture this, in that the collonell's wife, who is sister to sir Charles Gerrard, called alsoe lord Brandon, and a sister of the sayd coll. pretended to goe for Fraunce, to see there husband and brother, a quarter of a yeare agoe and more; but as I am informed, were seen both in London lately, and 'tis supposed, hee is not farr away. That the Lord, who hath hitherto wrought marvellously by you, may continue to preserve and direct you in all things to his glory, is the dayly prayer of

A. D. 1654.

V. xxi. p. 554.

Your highnes most obedient

Norton, neere Warrington,
Decem. 29. 1654.

subject and souldier,

JOHN BROOKE.

A letter of intelligence.

SIR,

WE have had no post from England these two weeks, which causes no small wonder amongst us here: what the reason hereof is, we may possibly know, when it comes; in the mean time, letters from all parts say, that a war with France is proclaimed; which, if true, will have no small reflexion upon the united low countries, whose states begin their session the beginning of this next week. Their main business is to settle the payment of their militia, the companies which are upon the generality being many months behind, and to conclude upon a positive state of war, in case no new troubles arise.

V. xxi. p. 546.

The French fleet need not now fear general Blake, who, they say, hath quartered the arms of Burgundy in his banners, being, though in a shattered condition, got into Toulon. The duke of Guise hath sent his manifesto to the court, accusing heaven and earth, and excusing himself, for the unhappy issue of his ill laid design.

You have heard of the queen of Swedeland's royal entertainment at Brussels, which was indeed kingly. They are building a stage in the great hall there for a royal play, which is expressly made for her, and to be represented at shrovetide. She hath altered for the present her resolution of returning to Antwerp, and hath taken Egmond's house for her seat and quarters. The prince of Condé hath not visited her yet, because she will not receive him at the stair foot, as she did the archduke; yet they have spoke occasionally to each other at the comedy.

The earl of Fuenfaldagna's principal secretary is clapped up, being accused of intelligence with France. The greatest proof they have against him is, that being poor, when he came to that employment, he hath, in a short time, been able to put out 200000 guilders at use.

The duke of Gloucester is come as far as Antwerp in his way to his brother, (who is still at Cologne) but fell sick there, in so much that Dr. Frazer, the king's physician, is upon his way to attend him there.

The king had lately most of his plate stolen from him. This is robbing the spittal. The Swedes do not as yet advance; some of their troops are gone to oppose the progress of the Muscovites, and some into Pomerania.

Jan. 9. 1655. [N. S.]

Viole, *president of Bruffels, to Barriere.*

Bruffels, the 9th of January, 1655. [N. S.]

A. D. 1654.
V. xxi. p. 548.

THE marquis de Lede is preparing for his embassy into England. The queen of Sweden intends to stay here all this winter. She hath hired the house of Egmond to live in. We never go to visit her. I believe you know the reason.

Here is a report of a league offensive and defensive concluded between England and Spain, and between Sweden and Spain; but I do not believe it. The French have lost some men before Lens; which they thought to have surpris'd, but were beaten off, with the loss of 3 or 400 men.

A letter of intelligence.

Bruffels, the 9th of January, 1655. [N. S.]

V. xxi. p. 552.

THE duke of Gloucester is still at mr. Huet's at Antwerp very sick. Count Egmond is turned out of his house, to lodge the queen of Sweden in it, and could not prevail for one quarter of it for himself.

Here is much talk of the archduke's going for Spain to marry the infanta.

A letter of intelligence.

Bruffels, 9 January 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

V. xxi. p. 538.

YOURS of the 22d of last month, and first instant, I received together, in regard the wind served not. Yours I will send to Cologne and Vienna, from both which cities you have this week's letters. Here now we begin to believe all will be quiet in England, and we do apprehend much of your great naval armado, as to the prejudice of this king in the West Indies, notwithstanding marquis de Lede, who is now here to receive his commission, is preparing suddenly to go into England, and I presume will be there about a fortnight hence. He had been dispatched sooner, but that our secretary of state Navarr is now in orders, a priest, and so these five days retired; but he is still to continue his place of secretary, with the addition of some church livings.

The queen of Swedeland is still courted with comedies and shews, and says she will go to Paris to mediate the general peace, when the weather is more seasonable.

Farther some say she undertakes, that her successor the king of Swedeland shall join with that king, who shall be yielding to a just and honourable peace against the other, till he be compelled to it.

The prince of Condé entertained that queen very civilly; but it happened, that they two dining together with others, the arch-duke Leopold being not upon the place, that the prince found himself offended, being not treated or placed with the same respect as the arch-duke; but her Majesty excused herself, that though he was a royal prince, yet he was not the immediate son of a crown or monarchy; so the business passed lightly, but the prince is not satisfied in mind, who, as I hear, is upon his march towards the frontiers of France, because he could not obtain what he expected here from the peasants. Many troops go with him, and 'tis feared some will turn their coats before they return hither. The said prince sent part of his train to Malines, where his wife is, and is, as I hear, to send monfr. de Bouteville to England, and general Marfin to Spain.

The French army I mentioned in my letters, two posts since, about 6000 horse and foot (though said to be 12000 in some letters, but not true) did attempt to surprize and take Lens, a garrison of ours, wherein were two Irish regiments and two Lorrainers. And the French having attacked the said place in four places, and the assault having endured for 6 hours, the French were beaten off with a considerable loss of men, some say 800. Their commander in chief in that enterprize, count of Broglio, governor of la Bassée, is dangerously wounded, and so the French are returned to their quarters. It is here confirmed by letters from Madrid, that don Lewis de Haro's whole house is burnt, and he now lives in the king's palace in the quarters of the prince of Spain, which is the greatest honour and favour he ever yet received. In the same letters I have seen, that were it not for that burning, and the confusion that followed in the affairs before don Lewis de Haro, that the agreement made betwixt his majesty and the plenipotentiaries of Genoa had been published.

The

The duke of Gloucester and Ormond past this way incognito; the first, I hear, is gone to his sister in Holland, and the other to Cologne to give account of his negotiation to R. C. I send to you the portraiture of a monster sent hither from Gyrona, found in the mountains of Zardana in Catalonia. I have had it these three weeks, and valued it not to be presented; but it may be some are more curious than I am; so I send it, having no more at present but what is herewith from,

Sir, your's.

General Monk to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

I HAVE received your highnesse's letter of the 25th of December this afternoon by this messenger. Concerning what your highness writes, it shall be punctually observed. I have apprehended some before the receipt of it. I hope (by the blessing of God) there wil bee noe danger by disaffected persons in Scotland, for I find the commanders soe generally well affected, that I doubt not we shall be able to command any person great or small heere. I wish your highness would send some field officers to take charge of the regiments, late major general Harrison's and coll. Riche's, and that major Knight may be hastened to his command. It is principally in the regiment late coll. Riche's, that any officers appear factious; and I have given orders for securing them and others, who doe or shall appeere soe, or speak against the government. I formerly represented it to your highness, that I had written severall letters to coll. Overton, desiring him to come hether, before I received your highnesse's commands; and that he taking noe notice of them, I sent away (on munday morning last) orders to lieutenant coll. Lagoe, to secure coll. Overton. I have not yet received an accompt of the receipt of these orders; which therefore I have renewed and sent againe; but am much assured of lieutenant col. Lagoe's firmenes to us: wherefore I believe he has by this time secured col. Overton. If hee be not yet secured, I shall assure your highness, that (by the lord's assistance) hee shall bee secured within these tenn dayes. I haveing this day received a letter from colonell Overton by the northerne post, I have thought fit to send your highness heere inclosed a copie thereof. By it your highness may perceive, hee had received my letters (sent him before the orders for his committall) though he is pleased thus to protract the time of his coming.

Dalkeith, 30 December
1654.

I remaine your highnesse's
most faithfull and most
humble servant,
GEORGE MONK.

An intercepted letter to col. Overton.

Desember 30. [1654.]

SIR,

YOUR freinds in England ar well, but by resin, as is sopped, of the ill wether, do not hear so frequently from you as formerly. I wish that be the only caus, for sum fear of intercepting letters ar upon them; comparing things with things, 'tis not unlikely. Ther ar strang reports at London, or however at court, that you should shortly be . . . being sent for; but ther being no such news from your self to your owne family, I do give the less heed therunto; for your wife faith, she had not herd the left notice therof from you. Sir, I hope, if it be so, it will not trouble you, for you know whom you serve; and truly I know not any man alive, which hath more caus to trust God in al conditions then your self; he hath don so great things for and bie you, that we cannot but hope you will still be faithfull to the good old intrist of Jesus Christ and his saints, so as never to apostatise from it, with this backsliding generation. Sir, I do beleve, ther is a great stock of praiers going on for you, and I am sure ther is a faithful and merciful high-preeft, who is at the right hand of the father; who is able to save to the uttermost. Surly suferings for him ar very easie: sin makes suferings heavie, but wher the fenc of sin is taken off, Christ's yolk is very eafy, and his burden light. Sir, I have not bin well this last week, but at present somewhat better. I must therefore with the tender of my humble service to your honour take leave to rest,

Your humble servant.

SIR,

A. D. 1654. **I** HEAR coll. Salmon is upon mariag with Ge. Daine's widow, if it be not alredy don. Capt. Norshend is come from London: 'tis thought he will give you an account; he is a close and safe man, as the most of the wisest of this age ar. Well, a little honesty would doe well amidst so much policie as is now adaies xxx.

The superscription,

*Thes for the honorable col. Ro. Overton
att his quarters in Aberdeen in Scotland.*

Copy of a letter found with mr. John Ramsey, secretary to col. Overton.

SIR,

V.xxi.p.574.

AFTER my long silence I must now vissit you with two or three lines, to make inquiry after the proceedings of parliament and protector with this poore languishinge commonwealth, and shall desire to know what progresse is made in order to that government, the which so many men's lives lost for, and we from time to time have been put to engage for, to bring about, and to maintain, but cannot see any such visible satisfaction in that particular, as I have long expected. Yet my hopes shall still be in that glorious God, who first perswaded so many upon the account of conscience to draw their swords on the behalf of the country; and I hope it will not be sheathed, but upon such glorious termes, as will make all men sit down in peace, without being tyranized over at the wills of any persons whatsoever, and all men being one equall subject to one law. These things we have long expected, and shall still hope for them. I having soe honourable and faithfull a messenger, being major general Overton, could not but be very plain in speaking my mind to you. I desire, if there be any thing, wherein you may serve him, the which would be in order to the service of our poore country; and I know it is your delight to doe service on that particular. He is sent for, and the ground of it I know not, but for his honesty, inocency, and faithfullness to his countrey I believe the army cannot paralell him. Sir, I desire you to keep this letter to yourself, as also to present my faithfull service to lieutenant colonel Sankie, with the same to yourself, and all the rest of the committee.

Aberdeen, 30 December
1654.

I remain

your faithfull friendly

servant, whilst I am

RICHARD MOSSE.

An intercepted letter.

10 January 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

V.xxi.p.580.

I Received yours of the 1st instant, but it coming to my hands this day, there was no time to speak with your merchants. You mention about 100; nor is it needful, seeing you intend to come hither; and the matter may be done much better. The commodity you mention will bear a good price here. You need not fear; and therefore you may venture to engage for it without any danger of loss. The transportation goes on; but for ought I see without any hope of exemption of any; and therefore we had need of looking out for a better livelihood some other way.

Your servant and friend.

The direction was,

To Monsr. la Broise at Brussels.

OLIVER P.

V.xxi.p.436.

THESE are to authorize and require you forthwith to recruit the four companies under your command in our Tower of London, to the number of nine hundred soldiers besides officers; and for so doing this shall be your warrant. Given at Whitehall the 20th of December 1654.

*To our trusty and well-beloved col. Barkstead,
lieutenant of our Tower of London.*

5

OLIVER

OLIVER P.

WHEREAS you lately received orders from us to recruit the four companies under your command in our Tower of London to nine hundred private soldiers, besides officers; these are further to authorize and require you to recruit your said company with three hundred more, to make them up in all twelve hundred private soldiers besides officers; and for so doing this shall be your warrant. Given at Whitehall the 25th of December 1654.

A. D. 1654.
V. xxi. p. 437.

To col. Barkstead, lieutenant of our
Tower of London.

A paper of col. Barkstead, lieutenant of the Tower.

IN obedience to his highness's order of the 20th instant, as also of another order of the 25th instant, I have proceeded to the performance of my duty therein required, which was for the immediate raising 800 private soldiers, besides officers, to be added to the 400 already under my command in the 4 companies in the town, as also for the compleating of two companies more to the former four companies, consisting of two captains, two lieutenants, two ensigns, four serjeants, two gentlemen of the arms, six corporals, and two drums; and for the better discipline and ordering the whole 1200 soldiers in the 6 companies, his highness ordered nine serjeants, 8 corporals, 8 drums, so that besides the establishment for the four companies, I humbly desire his highness and the council's order to the committee of the army, for issuing out pay to the 800 recruits from the 20th of December according to their respective days of muster; as also for the paying of the officers of the two companies, together with the 9 serjeants, eight corporals, and eight drums, from the 8th day of January being the first day of their muster, and so to continue the pay of the said recruits, together with the officers of the new companies, as before, and the addition of nine serjeants, eight corporals, and eight drums, till farther order.

JO. BARKSTEAD.

OLIVER P.

WHEREAS we have thought fit to add to the six companies under the command of colonel Barkstead in our Tower of London, nine serjeants, eight corporals, and eight drums, you are hereby required from time to time to muster them with the rest of the said forces, that they may receive pay accordingly. Given at Whitehall the 30th of December 1654.

V. xxi. p. 438.

To the commissary general of the musters
or his deputy.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to his father.

MY LORD,

I HAD no time to write to you by the last post, but you will have understood the state of affairs of this country out of my letters to the court. I do not think it necessary to write to the earl of Brienne, when my negotiation doth not furnish me with any new subject. I am still at a stand, and put off with pretences from time to time. I am resolved to ask audience to morrow of my lord protector, if I do not see that he doth determine to conclude.

V. xiv. p. 102.

Monsr. Servien hath writ a long memorandum to me according to the order of his eminence. I have returned him an answer by this post; but it is most to the same purpose of that, which I had writ formerly, only I have added the passages of the parliament since my last.

All this while they have been busy to examine the articles of the government, and have made some provision in that, which doth give power to the protector to raise money during the intervals of parliaments, to whom alone the power is reserved for time to come. The sitting of the parliament is ordered for six months; and now this day they are upon the article of the council, which many will have to be named, and belong by and to the parliament, that so there may be some colour left of a commonwealth.

VOL. III.

Q

Here

A. D. 1654.

Here hath been propounded by one of the keepers of the great seal, to give a greater authority to the protector; some others did second this advice, but the colonels contradicted it, who had also some of the council, and a chief favourite to side with them, which did hinder for that time the debate of the question any longer; and since those, who did reject that advice, have had thanks given them by the council. A fine example of modesty! On Friday last the protector sent to the parliament, to know their advice, upon a design which he hath to employ the fleet upon some advantageous enterprize tending to the propagation of the gospel. The parliament did judge, that such affairs ought to be kept secret, referring the whole disposal thereof unto him; assuring themselves, that he will employ it to the best advantage and honour of the nation. Since which the protector hath been busy about his admiralty affairs, to dispatch away the fleet, which it is thought now will not be going before the end of this month. Some will have Spain to have the alarm, and that they are his territories they aim at. Others say that I must be sent home very suddenly. I do not know which of these two reports hath the surest ground; but if I may be credited. I will conclude or return home very suddenly; and my design is to press the lord protector very speedily, with as much earnestness and evidence as it is possible, without threatening to declare myself of his intentions.

It is said, that in Ireland two or three anabaptist colonels there, who had been lately cashiered by his highness, have declared against the protector; but without a good correspondence with England they are not able to do any thing.

[December 1654.]

Monsr. de Bordeaux to his son, the French ambassador in England.

MY SON,

V. xv. p. 148.

I DID not write to you by the last post, thinking they would have dispatched the express, which you sent over; but it seemeth the court hath not yet taken their last resolution as to peace or war; for which your express doth still wait, and by whom I intend to write touching your negotiation. This is therefore in order to your particular affairs, &c.

But know withall, that the resolution of the council is taken to send for you home; and that there is a manifesto drawing up with all speed against England to send to you, to be represented to the protector or the parliament, to justify the conduct of France and its subjects; which doth oblige the king to send for you home, after he had done all that he could to treat with sincerity, and to continue the alliances of the nations. And men do believe here, whether it be by the advice of the royalists, or the inclination your side may have to be revenged on this nation, or whether it be upon some other principles or secrets unknown to us, that it is the opinion of your chief minister of state, that it will be better for England to come to an open war. And if by your advice and conduct, where you are, you do not put an end to your negotiation before the precise orders of a rupture, which are to be sent unto you by your express, I make no doubt of your return.

Some do imagine that this rupture may produce an accommodation; or that it will embroil the protector and his parliament; or that the protector himself and his parliament, seeing the affairs at this extremity, will be the first that will demand, by the interposition of the ambassadors of Holland, some moderation or accommodation. This is the opinion of some particular men that are privy to the counsels above.

[December 1654.]

Cardinal Mazarin to Bordeaux.

SIR,

V. xxi. p. 364.

I HAVE received yours of the 29th of November and the 7th of this instant. There was a purpose to have sent unto you an express messenger, to inform you of his majesty's last resolutions concerning your negotiation. But forasmuch as you are upon the point of making your addresses to the lord protector, it was thought convenient to expect the result of that audience; and in the mean time you shall receive particular information of his majesty's intentions from monsfr. de Brienne, to whom I refer myself for the same purpose.

I have seen in the hands of your father your last discourse, which you had with the protector; which I found to be managed with great judgment, and to be of that force and weight that it ought to be. For in short it is no way equal, that the king should any longer be a mere spectator of those depredations, which are daily made upon his subjects. And the

truth is you ought not to be any longer silent, or forbear to speak in a dialect, which may be suitable to the majesty of so great a prince, who is able to make good to the utmost whatsoever shall by you be propounded. A. D. 1654.

As to the other matter, whatsoever face things may have, I cannot easily believe, that they would break with us, or make any assault upon France. Nevertheless we desist not from taking special care every where, and in all places, where the English are; and they themselves cannot complain, but that theirs are civilly treated by us. Neither is it very probable on the other hand, that this fleet is designed for America, and that for the space of these six months they should be at so great expence in the delaying of the execution of that design. But that which seems most probable, as to that design, is the assistance of the Hollanders; and I am daily more and more confirmed in this opinion.

As to that, that it is for general Blake to get money in the Mediterranean sea; assure yourself it is a bruit only, but has no solid foundation, and such a chimera as the Spaniards never dreamt of; besides it is that, which would not any way answer such preparations.

[December 1654.]

Some briefe and true observations concerning the West-Indies, humbly presented to his highnesse, Oliver, lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, [by mr. Thomas Gage.]

1. **T**HAT your highnesse his most faithfull servant may not be thought any waies to act (with a pretence of good to his native country) by a Jesuiticall spirit leading to any subtil motion, which may tend to the drawing away any force or naval strength from his country, whereby your highnesse may be weakned, and your enemies in the narrow seas, in Ireland and Scotland, or any at home (if they shall hereafter appeare, which the Lord avert) may bee advantaged; it is the humble fence, and true and faithfull judgement of your highnesse ever praying servant for your prosperity, that to suppress all enemies, and that this nation, with Scotland and Ireland, may enjoy comfort and protection by your highnesse his long government, safety and happynesse, it is not at present safe or expedient, to take away quite from the seas (which compasse your dominions) all the strength of the shippes; but that such fleets may bee left, which may over-power all enemies abroad, and bee a safety to the trade of this nation; but in case this being done, and sufficiently provided for, and yett strength left to take in hand any glorious enterprize; that then these few observations of my owne experience may by your highnesse be accepted, as from one, who for these many yeares hath observed, yea admired the activity of your highnesse his faith (for faith in the saints, in the behalfe of GOD's glory, is an active faith) who waits for the conversion of the poore Indians, who longeth to see the light of the gospell runne yett more and more forwards, till it come to settle in the west among those poore, simple, and truely purblind Americans. V. xxiv. p. 11.

2. Your highnesse his humble servant having seen abroad, and knowne in part, the flourishing condition and strength of the house of Austria (Rome's chiefe strength and pillar,) hath observed the Austrian pillar's strength to bee in the American mines; which being taken away with Austria, Rome's triple crowne would soone fall and decay.

3. Though God be long-suffering, yett hee is not ever suffering and ever bearing with a proud sinfull people; but no people more sinfull then the Spaniards in America, both greate and small, viceroyes, judges, and poore pefants, who in general sinne, and hide not their sinne, as the prophet saith, but sinne publikely, sinne like beasts uncontrowledly: therefore thier finnes will betray them and fight against them, if ever any nation shall oppose them.

4. It hath been for these many yeares their owne common talke, from some predictions, or (as they call them) prophecies, vented out amongst them, that a strange people shall conquer them, and take all their riches from them.

5. None in conscience may better attempt such an expulsion of the Spaniards from those parts, then the English, who have been often expelled by them from our plantations; as from St. Christopher's, St. Martin's, from Providence, alias St. Catharine's, and from Tortugas, where the English were unhumanly and most barbarously treated by the Spaniards, who to this day watch for their best advantage to cast us out of all our plantations, and say, that all the ilands, as well as the maine, belong to them. And in conscience it is lawfull to cast out that enemy or troublesome neighbour out of his dominions, that would and hath attempted to cast us out of ours.

6. This is not a worke so hard and difficult as is by some apprehended; for that, first, though the continent bee vast, and of many thousand miles, yett it is very thinnely peopled by Spaniards.

Secondly, Within the maine land, in my time, in the greatest citties there was not one gun or field-piece, or wall, castle, or any bulwarke.

Thirdly,

A. D. 1654. Thirdly, The Indians (who in some places are many) cannot oppose, not being suffered to enjoy any armes, for fear of rising against the Spaniards.

Fourthly, The Spaniards cannot oppose much, being a lazy, sinfull people, feeding like beasts upon their lusts, and upon the fat of the land, and never trained up to warres; over whom there can be no fitt commanders suddainely (there being few or none in the land experienced in martial discipline) nor armes or ammunition (in some parts) in two hundred leagues to arme or strengthen six hundred fighting men.

Fifthly, For the Mulattos and Negros opposing, there is no feare, for if any armes were committed to them, soone might the masters feare to bee overpowered by their slaves and servants.

Sixthly, Because there are many strivings and factions among them, as Criolians, or there-borne Spaniards, against such as come from Spaine, Mestizos, Mulattos, and Negros against both, and all against the poore Indians; so that the factions, which were amongst the Indians of Tlaxcala and Mexico, were Cortez (the first Spanish conquerour) his best advantage to conquer that land with 500 or 600 men; so no doubt but their present factions may bee any other nation's advantage to conquer them againe. And if at the first arrivall any nation shall proclaime liberty to Mullatos, Negros and Indians, for such a liberty they would joyne with them against the Spaniards, as I have often heard them say, when there I lived.

7. Of all islands neere unto the continent, none like unto Hispaniola and Cuba. Hispaniola was the Spaniards first plantation, and therefore would bee to them a bad omen to beginne to loose that, which they first enjoyed. This island is not one quarter of it inhabited, and so more easie to take, there being few in it. The riches not being comparable with those of the maine are the cause, that so few inhabite it; and there being no Jesuites in it (who commonly are found in the richest citties and countries) is a signe of no great treasure; yett ginger, hides and sugar are there, and some doe talke of mines of silver formerly discovered. The taking of this island would bee a terroure to the Spaniards, and a meanes to keepe them much in awe upon the maine; yett if not seconded with a speedy landing upon some part of the maine, it might alarme them there to strengthen themselves more than ever yett they had done. Cuba is not so big, yett as rich or richer. At the chiefe towne of Havana it is very strong with castles, yett upon the river of Matanzos, a people may sett ashore a considerable party to march by land to Havana. Into this river of Matanzos did the Hollanders drive the Spanish galeons, and followed them up the river a little way when they tooke their plate from them, and might have landed as easily as the Spaniards landed to save their lives, and might have marched to Havana, which is not much above a daies march from thence. Thus with a fleet at sea before the castle, or in fight to terrifie, and a party by land on the backe of Havana, that strong place might bee gained, and the castles starved, and with Havana all the island conquered, which is the key of all the Indias.

8. In all the continent there is no place easier to land in then Honduras in Golpho Dulce, wherein may ride above 500 ships, and at the coming in may bee strengthened for the present upon two rockes, which the Spaniards yett never did. From this Golpho, alias called *Puerto de Cavallos*, there are not full threescore leagues to Guatemala, the chiefe court and citty of that country. The chiefe trouble is the first two daies up the mountaines, yet open and passable, where mules laden with jarres of wines from Spaine doe every yeare goe up without losse or danger. Up the hills there is cattle enough, and about the country plenty to victual 1000 ships. In the way to Guatemala there are Indian townes, especially Acazabaftlan, where provision of fish and flesh may bee had, and Indians to lead, and guide, and carry on provisions. Further, before wee come to Guatemala is the valley of Mixco and Pinola and Petapa, where is wheat enough growing, farmes of sugar, cattle, and store of fish from the lake of Petapa, of which country the language in part hath been printed by mee, and is not yet forgotten. The citty of Guatemala did in my time lie open without any defence of walls, guns, or bulwarkes, consisting of about five hundred inhabitants never practized to fighting. Cloisters are in it extraordinary. The taking of this citty would bee the subduing and bringing in of at the least three hundred leagues on both sides; for towards Nicaragua and Costa-Rica, and so by land to Panama, the Spaniard cannot raise 1000 fighting men, and scarce armes that way to arme 500 or 600. Northward towards Mexico to the Chiapa (four-score leagues from Guatemala) the Spaniards are very thinne, and not able to raise 200 men; so that this country being taken, and immediately a supply coming from Virginia, New England, and Barbadoes, the country would soone be peopled and strong to defend themselves from any strength coming against them from Mexico, which is 300 leagues off. Guatemala taken, the South Sea may bee commanded; which in some places is but one daie's journey from Guatemala. But a weeke's journey from thence there is a haven called Realexo upon the South Sea, and another nearer called La Trinidad, where some small ships come from Peru, which may easily bee taken, there being no castles in them; and all about that country there is store of timber for the building of ships, which

which our nation may soone sett out to master the South Sea and Panama, and so down-
wards to Peru; but much more, if from the East Indias a small squadron of ships should
come to joyne with them. Chiapa being taken in, then a province called Zoques (where
is the chiefeest cochinill) must needs yeeld, they being most Indian townes, and but here and
there some few stragling Spaniards.

A. D. 1654.

9. For the better conserving and keeping of Chiapa and Zoques, notice may bee taken
of a great river called Tabasco, which comes up to the country from the North Sea, and
entreteth into the country a little above the haven of Mexico, called Vera Cruz, and runneth
up to the province of Guaxaca, fourescore leagues from Chiapa, and to Zoques; downe
which river the Spaniards in boates send their cochinill, hydes, and fугars, to Vera Cruz.
A squadron of ships riding about Vera Cruz and the mouth of Tabasco may terrifie
much, yea, may send up in boates a party of musquetiers, (if they can endure there a
little heat (as myselfe did and the Spaniards doe) who may much harme that way the coun-
treys, while above a stronger party hath mastered Zoques: but in this case, care must bee
taken, and watch had over some parts, where by the river side are trees thicke and fit for
an ambuscado.

10. All this country is much corrupted with sin, and occasions to sinne and loosenesse are
great, which the lewd Spaniards have brought in amongst the Indians; and therefore such
as goe thither must bee well principled in points of honesty; otherwise they may soone bee
enslaved, and fall from God, and loosing him loose againe, what by his blessing, helpe,
and favour, may bee easily gotten, and so gotten may much redound to the glory of God,
to the enriching of this commonwealth, to the pulling downe the stout hearts of the stout
house of Austria, to the ruining and utter fall of Romish Babylon, and to the conversion of
those poore and simple Indians.

11. This country being taken, Jucatan may bee considered and Campeche, which hath for-
merly been easily taken by us and the Hollanders, and soone left. A small party may master
that; and it is considerable, because it joynes neere to Zoques, and is continent with Hon-
duras and Guatemala. Though in some places towards Guatemala there are barbarous Indians,
which the Spaniards never yett conquered, yett may by this time have conquered them;
for at my being there, it was their thoughts to doe it (but a sufficient number of fighting
men could not bee found) for the better and neerer commerce between that part of Guate-
mala, which is more remote, by Golpho Dulce. Five hundred men will doe much upon
this place. And all this will bee easie, when once footing is sett upon the country of
Guatemala, and doubtlesse at such a report, Barbadoes (which may afford to such a worke ten
thousand fighting men, as I have been informed by letters from thence five yeares agoe)
and Virginia, and New England, and other plantations, which are even worne out, and
have but droffe for that treasure, but copper for that gold, but dirt for those riches now
ready to our hands, will flocke thither with speed, to further such a glorious worke, which
may bee a worke of one halfe yeare, if vigorously acted, and the places named taken in
immediately one after another, before the Spaniards can joyne any forces, or any supplies
come from Spaine, which can hardly bee done by that king, having at present so many
yrons in the fire here in Europe. The next yeare thoughts may rise higher (when neigh-
bours and friends are come to joyne with us,) and carry to Mexico northward, or to Peru
southward, where are the cheifest mines.

12. Nothing can be acted upon the maine land untill October; at the begining of which
moneth begineth there the summer, and lasteth till May, after which till October againe
the raines and the showers are soe great and daily, that they will make the mountaines at
least almost unpassable. The heates so feared by our English are not soe great within the
land as in Barbados, where wee live well, except some places and marishes neere the South
Sea and the river of Tabasco, and one place called Chiapa de Indios, where yett I lived
with much health, as also doe the Spaniards there, and many places there are as cold as it
is here in England.

These few observations (having espied, as Joseph Egypt, that fat and rich country) I
thought it my duty to present unto your highnesse, as did formerly Columbus present unto
king Henry the seventh his discovery of the rich part of the world, which then was not re-
garded. God would not make that prince such an instrument for the advancing his glory,
as hee hath made your highnesse. The Lord grant, that your faith may yett bee active
abroad, as well as at home. The Lord grant, that yett you may ride on prosperously,
conquering and to conquer. The Lord make your highnesse, as our protector, so also a
protector of those poore Indians, which want protection from the cruelties of the Spaniards.
The Lord make your highnesse yett his instrument, for the enriching of this poore island;
and the Lord, who is rich in mercy, enrich your soule with the spiritual riches of his grace,
which is, and ever shall bee, the constant prayer of,

Your highnesse most faithfull servant and

daily oratour before the throne of grace,

THOMAS GAGE.

A paper of col. Muddiford concerning the West Indies.

December 1654.

A. D. 1654.
V. xxiv. p. 8.

UPON any design out of England upon the Spaniards in the West Indies, it seemeth to be most adviseable, that the general should land in Barbados with 2000 men in November, if he can, where he shall be sure to double his number. With these let him sail to Trinidad, and take the town of St. Joseph's, which is garrisoned with 100 Spaniards; which being done, give the town to the natives to oblige them; and the rather, because it will be dangerous to leave any English there, by reason of the unhealthfulness of the soil; for it is seated in the mouth of Oronoque, which (as great rivers do in England) makes it sickly. After this advance up the river of Oronoque, and take St. Thomas, which is garrisoned with about 200 Spaniards, and leave some English, and build some sconces in convenient and commanding places of the river, and put colonies in them. It were convenient to leave 1000 men in several places on the river, under a well tempered governor, who may practise on the Indians, and as he finds them advance, to arm them. By sea from Spain can this place only be attempted; for it is to windward of all his colonies in the Indies, and by land he dares not come, by reason the Indians are his enemies. Therefore you are in this only to consider, how able the Spaniard is at home, and make provision against him accordingly. From hence you may attempt Margarita with 3000 men, where you may undoubtedly receive 2000 more from the Leeward islands, in case order be taken for their transporting. At this island you may probably meet with 500 fighting men, besides slaves, who are the divers or fishers for pearl. This place you are to garrison, it being very healthful, though barren. From hence you may advance to Comana, Carracas, Venezuela upon the river of Marecay, and so to the river of Rio Grand, and if occasion serves, to Carthagena. These things are very easily compassed; for one Jackson in a roving voyage about 8 years since landed in Margarita, alarmed all that coast, went by Marecay, and lived 7 weeks in the country, having but 800 men, and in all that time saw no considerable enemy. Besides the Dutch have lived many years in a little island called Corozao with a small colony, which is as it were in their bosoms; arguments enough of the Spaniards weakness; so that make yourselves masters of that sea, and there is no fear or cause of doubt to succeed. All this coast is full of horses and cattle, the climate healthful, the land fruitful; the inland full of Indians, some as yet unconquered by the Spaniards, whither in a short time all the families of the Leeward islands will come, and many thousands from other places without your care or charge.

Reasons why it is better to settle Terra Firma, that is the main above-mentioned, rather than the islands, are these:

1. Because the islands are inhabited only with Spaniards, and by them very inconsiderably; so that if you go there, you will find little more than land and trees, and your business will be only to clear ground, build houses, plant, and make inclosures; a work of great toil, long time, and excessive charge, of which the old planters are very sensible: whereas on the main you will meet with good towns, well peopled, with a few Spaniards and many Indians, whom they keep in slavery, and who very probably will be faithful to milder masters.
2. The islands must be inhabited wholly by English, (for the Spaniards will not serve under them;) which may too much exhaust our native country of men, and render us weak at home; but on the main you have Indians to practise on, who, without dispute, will by politic and rational means be as so many hands gained to the commonwealth.
3. The returns from the islands will be so small and so slow, in regard they are to be produced by the labour of the planter, that it will beget impatience in the adventurers, and perhaps a total desertion of the design; whereas from the main you will presently be masters of gold, silver, and pearl, besides hides and tallow, and the present commodities arising from the many settled plantations there.
4. By settling the islands you provoke the Spaniard, but do not at all disable him of his revenge; but by settling on the main, you do not only take from him the benefit of his pearl, and the mines of gold and silver already open, but also hinder the passage of his treasure from Peru, and lay Peru fairly open to an invasion.
5. By settling the islands you do not at all impede his correspondence with his other colonies, so that he is still free and at large to advise and execute all things, as if you were not there; but by settling on the main you cut off his correspondence from Peru and all South America, so that he cannot supply them from Spain; by which means they must of necessity have all their commodities from you; and how that may work, and what intelligences that may produce among them, may easily be imagined.

I propose

A. D. 1654.

I propose the river of Oronoque to be first settled for these reasons.

1. Because it is one of the greatest rivers in the Indies, into which falleth for 1000 leagues running a great number of navigable rivers, on the banks whereof are an infinite number of naked Indians of several nations and languages, differing both in manners and interest, on whom great advantages may in a short time be made; and by their assistance more may be done than ever Cortez did in Mexico by the aid of the Tlaxcallans.

2. Because it lyeth but three days sail from Barbados, and you may probably in 4 or 5 days return thence to Barbados; so that if the worst happen, the retreat is from thence apparent, which will engage the more considerate men the sooner to undertake it.

3. We have already a colony at Surinam on the same continent, of about 600 men, besides women and children, who will readily quit that place to come where the beavers are.

4. You will presently command a great part of the Barbados sugar, by the sales of the cattle, horses and mules, which you may with ease transport thither.

5. The nearness of this colony to Barbados will be a good strengthening and countenance to each other; and if by chance of war you may fail in the more leeward achievements, yet this river may be kept, which in short time will yield sufficient answer for the hazard and charge laid out upon it.

6. The advantage of the rivers, the easy transport, in boats, of men, arms, and ammunition, provisions, and other luggage, and the great advantage you have on the Spaniards in that element, are principal motives to advise settling on the river windward, and the others of Marecay and Rio Grand leeward.

7. The great use that may be made of the naked Indians, in planting, trading, and other necessities, in time of peace, and the helping the English in time of war, are no mean considerations.

8. Barbados lieth very convenient to be the magazine of all necessities, untill Oronoque be securely settled; and there the sick men may be recovered, and the sound refreshed after the voyage from England.

9. Having the Indian to friend you, you may safely correspond with the other garrisons at Caraccas, or elsewhere on the Terra Firma.

This I hold to be the best design. Of the islands I hold Cuba to be the best, only by reason of the Havannah there seated, which may be called the back door of the Indies, the Spaniard being enforced to disimbogue that way; with whom you may speak, when he goes home with his treasure.

As to the arms, &c.

1. I would have a fleet strong enough to beat the Spanish armado; and let the frigats be good sailors, such as will stand nearest the wind; for which purpose the keels should be sharp and deep; let them be well victualled, the beef well salted, and the beer well boil'd; for we have found it by experience, that it is the corrupt victuals, not the climate, that causeth sickness.

2. Let not too many soldiers be put upon a vessel, to prevent pestering; and if possible, let the men be taken aboard at Plymouth or Falmouth.

3. Let your ships have double rigging, tackle, and sails, &c. for the voyage is long, and we have no supplies in these parts.

4. Let there be 100 good wherries, which you at London call light horsemen, and some 6 oar barges, which will be of very great use in the river, to fetch up the Indians canoes and pereagoas, which proved very advantageous to the colony at Surinam.

5. Let the land soldiers be provided with musket and pike and other defensive arms, as if you were to attempt France, Spain, or Italy, for the country is not hotter than either; but that a man may endure the carriage of arms here, as well as there. Let there be a good train of artillery, granadoes, petars, and other fireworks, and also engineers, and all other necessary officers of that kind.

6. Let there be arms for 1000 horse, and for two companies of curassiers complete.

7. Their clothing may be shirts, shoes, and drawers; and it would do well, if you did buy hammocks for them, which come from you; which I understand may be had about Bristol. For these in the Indies take no care, for they are already provided with them.

8. Be sure to have enough of mattocks, shovels, spades, pick-axes, wheelbarrows, axes, carpenters, coopers, and masons tools; saws of all sorts, and the like.

Lastly, it will be necessary, if the person who shall command in chief of these forces, have a power to command all the governors of the English in any part of America; and that his highness's orders be directed to them to that purpose: and though I verily believe, that every man will be forward to embark on this design, yet it is wisdom to have a power of pressing, which on some extraordinary occasions may be made use of.

Thus I have laid open a design of as much ease to obtain, and of as much honour and wealth in the enjoyment, as can be probably imagined.

By

By the commissioners of the admiralty an estimate of the charge of the navy for this winter and next summer.

January 1. 1654.

A. D. 1654.
In the possession
of George
Duckett, Esq;

THE said commissioners having taken into their consideration the concernment and charge of the navy for the present winter, and following summer, have drawn up an estimate thereof, which is hereunto annexed, whereby it appears, it will be requisite for defraying the charge of the same, the sume of 850610 l. and for the ordinary expence in the office of the ordnance the sume of 63208 l. 13 s. 8 d. which in the whole is 913818 l. 13 s. 8 d. to be provided by such monthly proportions as are therein likewise specify'd, and do humbly offer the same to his highness the lord protector and the councill, praying that there may be such timely and effectuell provision made for supply of money as may answer the emergencies of the said service, and enable due payment of the debts already contracted. It is likewise further humbly offered, that in this estimate there is nothing included for the charge of generall Blake's and generall Penn's squadrons for any longer time than the 25th March next following; so that if there be any intention for their provision untill the 1 October 1655. there must be a proportionable sume of money further allowed, which by estimation is 108919 l. It is further humbly offered, that in this estimate there is yet 8000 mens victualls considered for this next summer guard, for as much as there is liberty to declare for the other 1000 l. at any time between and February next; so that if there be a resolution to have 1000 mens victualls more declared for, and they also imploy'd, that charge must be provided for also, which by estimation will for 6 months and $\frac{1}{2}$ from the last of March to first of October, be 26000 l. and generall Disbrowe is desired to report the same.

EX. RO. BLACKBORNE, Secretary.

The originall hereof was read in councill
2 Jan. 1654. and then ordered that a
copy should be delivered to the com-
missioners for the treasury.

W. JESSOP clerk of the councill.

A paper of information.

The briefe account of the busines.

January 1. 1654.

V. xxii. p.17.

ABOUT the 25th of September they treated with my lord Faifax, by the mediation of a person, as they tearme him, of 4000 l. *per annum*, who fell sick about the 20th of October last. The summe of that busines is, they pretended my lord Faifax upon a good opportunity would give his assistance.

The 11th of November col. Garnett, who hath an estate neere Croyden in Surrey, went to Charles Stuart to Cullen, with two more in his company, one from the city, the other from the army. They returned the 28th of November. Hee being secured may bee forced to reveale his complices. He was in towne on saturday last, &c.

Sir Humprey Bennett, the lord Bellasis, are of the secrete committee; and if my lord Willowby bee comming to towne, itt may certainly be concluded hee is in. I heard him mentioned to be generall of the city forces.

Mr. Weston, sone to Sir Richard Weston, went out of the towne on friday night last, to bring a considerable person to towne, with whom I was to conferre. His journey lies thorow Colebrook. Itt is sayd, the person hee went too, concealed himselfe, butt by this circumstance may bee revealed.

On thursday last, col. Alured told a gentleman that came to see him, that Okey had undone major general Overton and the busines.

For the prels I shall to night give a considerable account.

Sir William Campion, governor of Borstall-house for the late Kinge, is come to towne this morninge.

Indors'd by secretary Thurloe.

Mr. Deane *his paper*.

The Examination of John Skinner, of Tower-hill, gunsmith, taken Jan. 1. 1654.

SAITH, that he hath in his shop about 600 arms in his house. That he hath within these two months sold about 100 pair of pistols, part whereof he sold unto one Mr. Sturfsman (who he believes lives in London, but knows not where) and the other part he delivered unto Mr. Fryer, a chandler in Tower-street. He saith, he knows one Custis, but never dealt with him.

A. D. 1654.
V. xxii. p. 5.
In the hand
writing of se-
cretary Thur-
loe.

The examination of Thomas Skinner, of Leadenhall-street, gunsmith, taken Jan. 1. 1654.

Saith, that he sold 20 carbines to one Mr. Custis, of Lime-street, who told him, they were to be ship'd; but knows not whither. He sent also about 19 pair of pistols to his brother Skinner; and saith, the said Custis was speaking of about 50 pair of pistols, and about 40 or 50 carbines more to be made; but did not make any agreement for them.

The examination of Thomas Woral, taken Jan. 1. 1654.

Saith, that he hath lately sold about 20 carbines to Custis, a merchant in Lime-street, and seven pair of new pistols to another, whose name he knows not.

The examination of — Fryer, ship-chandler in Tower-street, taken Jan. 1. 1654.

He saith, that he hath in the house about 40 pair of pistols.

The examination of Edmund Custice, taken Jan. 1. 1654.

SAITH, that he hath been acquainted with major Henry Norwood, occasioned by correspondence in Amsterdam from Virginia; but hath no account of dealings with him at all in England, only exchanged 50 l. with him at Cambden-house, gold for silver. That the 5 chefts and 2 trunks of arms now found in his house are partly bought by himself, and partly by Mr. Sturfsman, to be sent for Virginia. That the said Sturfsman is already gone, and he is to ship the arms by the first ship after him, in a cargo of other goods, in a ship called the charity, John Bosworth master. That the arms he bought were in the Minories, at the Golden Lion, and next door to that. At which Lion he hath also bespoke this week 13 carbines, to be ready in 10 days, and 10 carbines on the same terms at next door. * And being farther examined, where he hath been in company with the said major Norwood, he saith, he met with him at the chamber of the said Norwood, in the Temple, and also at the Hoop and Pye in Leaden-hall street, and sometimes at Cambden-house, at Mr. Crone's; and that he hath met in his company one Glover and Tomlyns. He met him likewise at the Fountain in Fen-church-street.

* The re-
mainder of
this examina-
tion is in the
hand writing
of secretary
Thurloe.

The examination of major Henry Norwood, taken Jan. 1. 1654.

WHO saith, that he hath lain in and about London since August last was a twelve month about his own affairs, and especially to sell some goods he brought with him out of Virginia, to his best advantage, and to buy other goods to send to the same place. And he being told, that he was taken, as being suspected to have a hand in the late plot with Jerratt and others; and being now again asked, what his answer was then, he saith it was much to the same purpose as before. And being questioned, wherefore he bought horsemens arms, he replied, that he bought them to be sent into Virginia, for the use of that plantation; the number of which arms he saith is contained in two papers, which were found about him upon his apprehension, the greatest part whereof do remain with one Mr. Custis, a merchant in Lime-street, and the other part of the arms he saith are sent to Virginia, in the ship whereof captain Whitty is master, and were put on board by one Mr. Ludwell, who went in the same ship, which ship went from England about a month ago. And being asked, whether those arms were entered in the custom house, he saith, they were not, and that no custom was paid for them. And being further demanded, why the arms aforesaid were sent to Mr. Custis, he saith, that Mr. Custis and he had formerly dealings to Virginia together; and that they were partners in those arms and other goods, which they intended to send to Virginia; and further saith, that the arms aforesaid were bought by the said

V. xxii. p. 13.

A. D. 1654. **W**mr. Ludwell and one mr. Stearman, who is gone to sea, as he believes, about a fortnight since. And that sithence there have been no more arms bought by him, or by his direction, nor hath he imployed any persons to buy arms, other than the said Ludwell and Stearman. And being demanded, whether he hath any arms besides those at mr. Custis's house, he saith, he hath not. And being asked, what was meant by writing mr. Tomlyns debtor upon the top of the paper, and who that mr. Tomlyns was, he saith, that mr. Tomlins is now dwelling in Virginia, and went from hence thither about twelve months since; since which time he hath not been here; but saith, that by direction from mr. Tomlyns he received 250 l. for buying the commodities mentioned in the said paper; and that the said money was brought to him by a porter, whom he knows not; nor doth he know from what place he brought it; only he signed a receipt for the money to the said mr. Tomlyns, which he gave to the porter. And being afterwards asked, whether he knew not from whom the said money was sent, he now saith, that as he remembers, the said money was sent from one mr. Philmore, who was then in London, but is since gone to Virginia, as he believes. And being asked, to what place he went, when he left his lodging at the Temple, he saith, he went to the lady Newport's, where he lay till saturday last, when he went to mr. Glover's. And being asked, why he went to mr. Glover's, he said he did it to secure himself from his creditors, and to see mr. Glover's stilling works. And saith, that he hath sold his chamber at the Temple to one mr. Frogmorton, but that no body lies in it for the present. And being asked, whether he hath any acquaintance with the lord Willoughby, he saith, he hath, and that he hath spoken with his lordship several times of late about transplanting of mulberry trees out of Virginia to Surinam, and settling of plantations for silk in Virginia, and that he had no discourse with him of any other business that he remembers. And being asked, what meetings he had had with mr. Custis and mr. Glover, he saith, he hath had several meetings with them, in particular at mr. Croane's house on saturday last, where they three and one mr. Tomlyns dined together, which Tomlyns he saith is a kinsman of the aforementioned mr. Tomlins in Virginia; and that the occasion of their meeting was about their Virginia business, wherein this mr. Tomlyns in England hath no share at all; but being there as one of his acquaintance, he procured for him 50 l. in gold for so much silver; which 50 l. in silver mr. Tomlyns bringing with him, was delivered to mr. Custis, who gave him 50 l. in gold for it. And being demanded, where the said mr. Tomlins lodgeth, he saith, he knows not.

H. NORWOOD.

The examination of Henry Croone taken Jan. 1. 1654.

V. xxii. p. 21.
In the hand
writing of se-
cretary Thur-
loe.

SAITH, that major Norwood hath several times been at his house in company with other gentlemen; and in particular that upon saturday last he dined there with one Mr. Tomlyns, as he remembers his name, and two others whose names he knows not. And that after dinner major Norwood called to the deponent for the bag, which he had sent to him; whereupon the deponent called to his boy, and wished him to deliver the bag to the said Norwood, which he did accordingly; who having taken out some part of that which was in the bag, which he believes was money, he left the rest in the closet, where it lay before. And the deponent saith, that he came by the bag in manner following, viz. That about tuesday last a young man brought unto his house a bag in manner of a fatchel, and asked the deponent, if he knew major Norwood; whereupon the deponent answering, that he did, he said that Norwood desired him this deponent to lay up this bag for him. Whereupon the deponent wished his boy to take it, if it were sealed, and lay it up, which his boy did, and the bag continues there still, save that the said Norwood took away something out of it, as aforesaid, upon saturday last.

January. 1 1654.

HEN. CROONE.

General Monck to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

V. xxii. p. 65.

I Received yours of the 26th of December with the duplicat you sent inclosed therein. I have lately secured major Bramston and Mr. Otes with some others. I have now sent my lord copies of some dangerous papers found about them. I send you heere inclosed some papers concerning col. Overton, of which I desire you to acquaint his highness my lord protector. All things heere are soe quiet, that I hope you will heare of noe more stirrs among ourselves, or from the Scots; for Middleton with about 12 men are gon into the isle of Skey, whence they intend to goe in a dogger boate for beyond the seas, notwithstanding

standing that hee had sent a trumpeter to col. Fitch, in order to his coming in, and making his peace. As I heare (though I have noe letter of it) col. Overton is secured at Dundee, who (I hope) shall bee speedily with you. I remaine

Dalkeith, 2d January
1654.

Your most affectionat servant,

GEORGE MONCK.

Col. Overton to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

IT is now neere six weeks since I received your commaundes for my speedy repaire to this place, where I doubted not but that my dispatch woulde have bin as quick as my call from the North was unexpected; whereunto I hope the readines of my obedience and tediousness of attendance hath in sum acceptable measure answered your highnesse's expectations, for which I still stand bounde to ad to my former endeavours such fresh evidences of my fidelity, as may, I hope, satisfie the most curious inquirers into my actions. V. xxii. p. 69.

And though, my lorde, noe innocency can be soe confidently secure, but without betraynge it selfe it may lawfully wish to stand in the eye of favour, yet I trust my behaviour hitherto hath been such, as before disinterested judges will beare mee up against the reportes or misrepresentations of all delators. If any expressions have through the freedome, which wee fought for, fallen from mee, I shall desire noe more ingenuity in my adversaries constructions, than what my 14 yeares faithfull services will warrant me to claime.

But such, my lord, is my misfortune, that I am yet kept hoodwinkt as to the cause of my attendance; and all that I can grope out in this darknesse is, that my condition resembles that of Cremutius in Tacitus, *verba mea arguuntur, adeo factorum sum innocens.*

But I am yet bold to beleve, I am happier in my judge, than hee was; and woulde your highnes vouchsafe to ad a litle expedition to your wonted condissention, I shoulde quickly putt a period to all the trouble, that you might further in this respect receive from

Your highnes's humble and obedient servant.

Col. Overton and col. Allured to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

IT is a virtue not to be over forward, and may cum within the compasse of a crime or accusation to be too slowe in selfe-concernments. But knoweing in part the pressures which are upon you, it mighte be an argument of ill manners in us to be over-importunate for a dispatch; yet not to be somethinge sensible of the same after soe tedious an attendance, might begett an opinion, that wee were in some respect supinely negligent of publique or private employments, if not in some other kinde culpable. Therefore wee still, my lorde, with as much patience as we may, attende upon your pleasure, not doubtinge in the interim but our fidelities will defend themselves againste all misprisions or reportes whatsoever. Wee therefore hope your highnesse will no longer exercise our patient expectations with delays, for wee are tender of that reputation, which you may as to men bothe give and take away. Whilste wee are under suspence, innocence may suffer and be shaken, though in the interim it inwardly beare up against time and detraction. Whatsoever hath occasioned our cominge and continewance here, wee humbly crave an impartiall audience and a speedy dispatch, and therefore wee once more beseeche youre highnesse to give us some result, that soe our attendance may in time attaine its honest end; it being in your highnesse power to period the tediousness wee are under, and therein the uncomfortableness of our condition, not knoweing the occasion thereof. Sir, if God see it good, wee may probably in peace or warr witnesse once more to the worlde in all uprightness and integrity, how mutche we are and may be

Your highnesse's assured servants,

R. OVERTON,
MATH. ALLURED.

Col. Overton to lord Lambert.

MY LORDE,

I AM still a patient expectant: heerein my integrity is accompanied with a chearefull submission to my attendance, in attaineinge my honest ends and aimes for puttinge a period thereunto. I suppose very much is in your lordship's power: therefore lend your assistance, I beseech you, sir, (soe speedily as your important employments may permitt) to

A. D. 1654. to move his highnesse the lord protector to consider the frequencie of my attendance the
 * * * of my concernments, and the uncomfortableness of my condition in not know-
 inge the cause of my cominge hither or continewance heare, that soe, if God see it good
 (as in former, soe in future service) I may make acceptable to your honourable ends and
 aimes,

Your lordshipp's assured servant.

Col. Overton to lord Disbrowe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

THough I am a stranger to you, yet encouraged by your late unexpected civilities, haveinge
 layne heare now almoste six weekes to receive his highnesse's commands, I make bolde to
 request your honor to be soe farr effectually moveinge for mee, that I may not withoute just cause
 to the contrary be kept from my commaunde, my fidelity wherein, accordinge to the publique
 or private trust reposed in mee, if my 14 yeares faithfull services will not warrant, lett me
 be otherways att pleasure disposed of; but if this will not doe, there is a God, att whose
 feete I shall sitt downe, and submitt to his commaunde, rather than my owne choyce.
 He that setts us the bounds of our habitation, culls oute allsoe for us the portion of our em-
 ployments. This free agent is not tyed up to any instrument, but can carry on his worke
 withoute us as well as with us. Thus, sir, you see I can a little comfortte my selfe; for whilst
 wee are sufferinge, our father's will is doinge: wherefore, shoulde the *forum fori* be shutt
 againste mee, yet the *forum poli* is open to mee, that soe I may unboosome myself to a
 prayer-hearinge God, that hee will heare and cause my innocencie to shine forth as the sunne
 att noone day; which is the assurance of, sir,

Your assured servant.

Mr. Geo. Palmer to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

V. xxii. p. 61.

ON fryday the 30th of December last came to Litchfield, where one of our troopes
 did quarter, one Lawrence Yates, with his highnes' order for our assisting him in
 apprehending arms conveyed into the houses of mr. Walter Vernon of Stockly parke in
 Staffordshire, and mr. Browne of Bentley in Derbyshire; which wee readily observed, and
 have seazed on three trunks, wherein was 56 case of pistolls, with seaven blunderbuffes.
 One of the case being extraordinary good, I made bould to send it to his highnes by the
 bearer; the other are ordinary. Wee have alsoe seazed the persons of mr. Walter Vernon
 and mr. Browne, and have with the armes brought them to my quarters in Coventry; they
 both denying the knowledg of any such persons, as the letters mention, which came with
 the trunks, one whereof to mr. Vernon was sent you by the aforesaid Yates, the other
 is this inclosed; but wee find by good intelligence, that the most likely person to have
 designed this busines to bee one mr. Edward Vernon, sonn to sir Edward Vernon of Sit-
 bury in Derbyshire, sometimes col. for the king. Hee came from London on christmas
 eve. Hee gave directions for leavunge of a trunke at his uncle's, the aforesaid mr. Walter
 Vernon, where two trunks was found. Hee also is brother to mr. Browne his wife, where
 the other trunks was found: him wee have apprehended, and keepe with the other two in
 Coventry, whilst wee may know his highnes further order, both concerning the persons
 and armes. I have sent this bearer on purpose, being one that went on the party to apre-
 hend them, and can give further satisfaction in the premises. In the intrim I shall dilligently
 observe his highnes commands, and remaine,

Your honour's humble servant,

Coventry, Jan. 2. 1654.

GEO. PALMER.

A letter of intelligence from Paris.

Saturday, the 13th of January 1654. [N. S.]

SIR,

V. xxii. p. 83.

THE English post is not arrived since my former. You have hence, that the last
 sunday in the afternoon one mr. Andrew White, whose brother liveth there with mr.
 de Barriere, and another called don Ricardo White, that also liveth in Madrid, who arrived
 here that same day both together went to his eminence, being then in the Louvre, with
 whom they were in conference two or three hours, giving an account of their services and
 fidelities to this crown; but after they took their leave of his said eminence, before they
 were

were down the stairs, were both arrested and committed to the Bastile, where they are now, A. D. 1654. and I believe will be this good while to come. All their papers were seized upon, wherein they found, that they gave intelligence of all the designs visible, that this court had against the enemy for the next campaign, which they confessed plainly themselves; and their reason for it was, to get more intelligence from the enemies by that means, for the good of France; but I believe all will not excuse them. It reflects much upon the surintendant, who drew into favour this White, and paid him out of the king's monies 400 pistoles by the year; and his eminency wondered he could not be contented with that, but he must play the knave. Another younger brother, that came from Spain a while ago with Christopher O Bryan, is committed too. So they be three up together. Sunday morning Andrew sent to the cardinal, desiring to speak with him of a business of high consequence. What it is I know not, but Andrew in the afternoon on Sunday was conveyed to the Cardinal; and after his discourse was sent back again. So the matter stands as yet. I hear they were to get 6000 Irish soldiers out of France, for which a fund is made to be punctually paid in Flanders and in Spain. Their papers may ruin them.

The king and cardinal are at Bois de Vincennes since Monday last, and will come home this night.

I do hear, that among the papers of the above gentlemen were found some letters of exchange of 7 or 800 pistoles appertaining to the brother, that came from Spain, who is the master of all the rest.

The ordinary post of Rome is not yet arrived. On yesternight late arrived an extraordinary courier from Rome with letters to the king, and many others, that the Pope could not live but two hours after he departed Rome; so it's sure he died, he being sick only ten days. The courier parted Rome the 28 last month, and the day before that day all the physicians quitted his holiness, and gave him over as a man not able to hold longer. The same day he confessed, received, and had extreme unction, &c. The 28th Donna Olympia had a consistory of cardinals before him, which proposed and desired the advice of his holiness, who should be pope after him. He left all to their election. Then some body proposed cardinal Medicis, to which his holiness objected, and proposed cardinal Sforza; but he being not able to discourse, left all to themselves.

All that day the convents were going in procession to mount Cavallo, praying for the pope, and praying God to send them another good pope; for which sure there will be a bruit. His holiness has set at liberty all the prisoners of consequence, that were in the castle of St. Angelo, and restored the government of Rome to Pamphilio again. All the factions now in Rome will be by the ears to see which should prevail; of which more by the time. We have by the last letters from Grenoble great complaints of the English in the Mediterranean seas. Also by the last from Bretagne, that six merchant ships French belonging to those of St. Malos were driven into a certain sea port, that belongs to Portugal, where some of the English besieged them without, and resolved to have them for themselves right or wrong, or else make Portugal pay for it, if it does in any way defend them. We long to hear any thing from your fleet preparing with the land army, to know where it goes; yet in the mean time we do not give over to fortify all our places near the sea, for fear of any sudden undertaking.

Here all is quiet. We heard nothing from prince Condé, or his forces, since my former. We hear some plot of king Charles was discovered there of late. It is true, the catholick princes of Germany are resolved not to give any more relief to king Charles, because he hindered his brother from being a catholick, and making his fortune in France; but now I hear he would give way to it willingly, to regain that assistance for himself. But I am not certain, whether France would accept of him now, seeing he refused it once. I have nothing more worth your hearing at this time. You may expect more by the next from,

Sir, your most faithful servant.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Augier's secretary.

Paris the 13 of January 1654.

SIR,

LAST Saturday an Irishman named White with two of his brothers, which were lodged at the Palace, were imprisoned here, where cardinal Mazarin having sent for the first as to speak unto him, he was no sooner at the gate of the Louvre, than an exempt of the king's guard obliged him to take coach, and brought him to the Bastile, for playing, as I am informed, a double part in some closet intrigues his eminency intrusted him with; it being to be noted, that there are six brothers reputed for as many spies dispersed in England, in the court of Spain, and in Flanders, whereof the lines of communication did

VOL. III.

T

all

A. D. 1654. all meet in this city, as in the centre of their pensions. I hear that the said prisoner's pension was of 6000 livres Tournois well pay'd.

Sunday we received news from Italy, that the pope was fallen sick to such an extremity, that he had received their sacrament, and exhorted the cardinals, and also recalled the cardinal of Astally, recommending unto his kindred to maintain union, and amongst others to prepare themselves with a disinterested soul for a new election, as though he was dying. This seems not well for cardinal of Retz, in the likelihood there is, that a new pope and his kindred will be a hungry people, who for money will sacrifice his interest unto their covetousness.

Monday the king went a hunting into the Bois de Vincennes.

Yesterday the rumour was through Paris, that admiral Blake was arrived in the island of Yeres with his fleet, which troubled the Provinceaux; but as yet we have no other ground thereof, than that of a letter written from Grenoble by a counsellor of that parliament, who saith he hath received the news thereof from Aix.

Mr. de Langlade will not go to Portugal, for a certain knight is to go in his stead, which I shall name hereafter.

The commissioner of marine hath been cashiered, who had caused the ships of chevalier Neufchaise to be prepared, by reason he had not made the expedition hoped for; and thereupon that office hath been given unto mr. Colbert, chancellor of cardinal Mazarin's house.

I hear they have at last sealed the provision of the government of Guienne in the behalf of the prince of Conti.

The last letters from Cologne bear, that thieves had by night stole all Charles Stuart's plate out of his house, as he slept.

Fleetwood lord deputy of Ireland to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

V. x. p. 19.

I HAVE writt so largely to my lord protector, that I have not time to adde much. I have, accordinge to his highnes commands, order'd about 3000 to be at waterside the 8 inst. and will, I presume, be at Liverpoole about the 14 of this month, unlesse contrary orders com. Only I desire you will speede orders in writing, which I have none by me. I intend the commissary general shall command them. He hath a desire to it: the Lord prevent any occasion for to use them. It woulde be a sadde houre, especially if good men should so divide; but I trust the Lord will give a healing spirit, and prevent such sadde effects of division. I feare not the old enemy, but to see faint against faint is sadde, and hath bine for thes last 2 years strangly encreasing, and few sensible hearts therof. The Lord awaken us to a serious sence therof. We are through mercy in quiet, but what the sending away so many forces will produce, I know not; but trust the gracious presence of the Lord will be with us. To spare 3000 foot out of Ireland is a more hard buyfines and dangerous then I perceive the parliament are made to belive. Heare hath bine some papers called mementoes, and other papers, spreade up and downe the army by that gentleman, who, I hade hoped, my frindshipe would have prevented any such attempt. Through mercy I cam to the discovery of it in time, and hope any danger is prevented. The lord grant thes sadde shakings may leade us more to himselfe. My haste must plead my excuse for the brevity of

Your very affectionate

friend and servant,

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

Jan. 3. [1654.]

If my Lord must of necessity have more forces, let me know with all speede.

I must once more importune your care for this bearer, a faithfull deserving person, cornet Bradley. Let him either have addicionall pay, or a better place, I beseech you.

I must rely upon your care, that none be added to the counsell heare, before I be heard, because I latelie hearde one was intended.

The examination of James Lloyd, taken Jan. 3. 1654.

[Taken by secretary Thurloe.]

V. xxii. p. 73.

SAITH, that he was about two years since steward to the lady Littleton of Worcester-shire, and had been so, and unto her husband sir Thomas Littleton, for nine years before. That since he hath lived in this town, and lives at this time in Drury-lane. And being

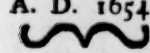
being asked, what correspondence he holds with sir Henry Littleton, son of the said lady, and high sheriff of Worcestershire, and what business he hath to do for him here, or for his lady; he saith, he hath not any, save that he sometimes delivers such letters, as they send, and sends them down some goods by the carrier. And being demanded, what goods he hath of late sent down thither, he saith, that there were about a fortnight before Christmas, two chests made of deal boards, and a hamper carried down by Cooke, carrier of Bromesgrove, under a direction put upon them by this examine in manner hereafter expressed, which chests were upwards of a yard long, and half a yard broad, and were heavy; but knows not what was in them. And as for the hamper, he saith, it was somewhat large and heavy, but knows not what was in it; but saith, that one major Henry Norwood of the Middle-temple told him, that they were bottles of wine. And being asked, upon what occasion the said Norwood told him that; he saith, that he being formerly acquainted with the said Norwood, the said Norwood sent for this examine to his chamber, and told him of some things he had to send to Hagly, the parish where sir Henry Littleton lives, and wished him to put a direction upon a hamper, which should be sent to the White-Hart-Inn in the Parish of St. Giles. And this examine saith, that accordingly he did direct it thus, viz. *For Mr. William Bowles at Sir Henry Littleton's, high sheriff of the county of Worcester.* And being asked, who did buy or provide the things contained in the chests and hamper, he saith, he knows not. And being asked, whether mr. Charles Littleton, brother to sir Henry, did not, or else the said major Norwood, he saith, he cannot tell, but saith, that the said Charles Littleton was then in town about his brother's business, and that he spake to him to put directions upon the chests, and the said major Norwood upon the hamper; but what was contained in them, or who they were that bought that which was in them, he this examine knoweth not. He farther saith, that he did also direct in manner aforesaid, as he remembers, two other chests made of deal, which were of about the same length with the other, and heavy, and an hamper, and also a little box to the lady; which chests, hamper, and box were carried down by Rose, a carrier of Bromesgrove, the week before christmas. And that he put the direction upon them by the desire of the said mr. Charles Littleton; but doth not know what was in these chests, but says, there were saddles for sir Henry Littleton and his servants in the hamper, and two gowns in the box for the lady Littleton and her sister. And being asked, what meetings he hath had of late with the said Norwood, he saith, that he hath been with him about three times within this three weeks last past; twice whereof was at the chamber of the said Norwood in the Temple, whither the said Norwood sent for this examine; and saith, that he sent for him to desire him to put directions upon the hamper, as aforesaid; and that he then spake with him about nothing else; and the other time was at the lodgings of the said mr. Charles Littleton in Covent-garden, where the examine was, when the said mr. Norwood came in, but had no discourse with him at all at that time; for as soon as the said Norwood came in, he this examine went away, and left him and the said mr. Littleton together.

JAMES LLOYD.

The examination of Robert Wooden, taken Jan. 3. 1654:

[Taken by secretary Thurloe.]

SAITH, that he is a porter, that belongs to the White-hart-inn in the parish of V. xxii. p. 77: St. Giles, and doth take in goods for the carriers of Warwickshire and Worcestershire, especially for Henry Cooke and Henry Rose, carriers, who live in Bromesgrove in the county of Worcester. And he being asked, what goods the said carriers, or either of them, have of late carried into the country, he saith, that Henry Cooke was in town a fortnight before christmas; and that amongst other things he carried two chests made of white deal boards, of about a yard and half long, and about a yard broad, one whereof weighed 200 weight, and the other about 100 weight, as he believes, for that they were very heavy; and saith, that those chests were directed to Sir Henry Littleton of Worcestershire, and now high sheriff of the county; which direction was put upon them by mr. Lloyd, who lives in Dury-lane, and was lately steward to the lady Littleton, after that the said chests were brought into the warehouse. And being asked, whether the said Lloyd did not bring in those chests, he saith, he did not, but that they were brought in by a waterman, one of them being carried in a cart, and the other carried by a porter. And saith, that the waterman had a coat with a badge upon it; but he remembers not what either the colour of the coat was, or what badge it was that was thereupon; but saith, that the waterman was somewhat tall in stature and lean. And being asked, what was in those chests, he saith, he doth not know, nor hath heard. And this examine farther saith,

A. D. 1654.  faith, that the said Henry Rose was in town the week before christmas, and went out of town that wednesday. And being asked what goods he carried with him, he saith, that the said Henry Rose did also carry two chests made with deal boards, about the same length with the former, but narrow, and weighed about 100 weight a piece; one of them was brought by the aforesaid waterman, and the other by another person in a cart, and were without any direction, when they were brought, but were afterwards directed by the said mr. Lloyd to the said fir Henry Littleton. And being asked, whence the said chests came, as well as those carried by Cooke, he saith, he knows not, nor did he ever enquire, the waterman telling him, that those he brought were for fir Henry Littleton. And for the other, he said, he was directed to mr. Lloyd for a direction to be set upon it. He saith, besides these there was a hamper carried by the said Rose for fir Henry Littleton, but knows not what was in it, unless it were coach-harness. And the examine being yet farther asked, what other things were carried by the said Rose, he saith, that there were two good great hampers directed to fir John Packington, brought into the inn by a cart, and the carman said, they were bottles of wine, and came from a tavern in Cornhill; but whether they were or not, this examine knows not; and saith, that they were a week in the store-house before the carrier came. And being asked, whether any other goods of that kind were sent to any other place by the said carrier, he saith, that there were not, save that a small hamper was sent unto Saltwich in Worcestershire; and as he remembers to one mr. Barret; but what was in it, he cannot tell.

The mark of **R** WOODEN.
ROBERT

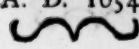
The examination and information of Richard Glover, taken Jan. 3. 1654.

V. xxii. p. 95.

S AITH, that he hath been acquainted with mr. Henry Norwood about five years since, and that his first acquaintance began with him at Virginia, where they were about four or five months, the said Norwood living then with fir William Berkeley governor of Virginia. That the examine came away from thence unto Amsterdam in Holland; and the year following the said Norwood came to Amsterdam in a ship, where the examine had some goods. And the said Norwood and the examine meeting there, Norwood desired the examine to receive certain monies, which were due to the said fir William Berkeley in Amsterdam, and delivered to him divers bills of exchange, whereupon the money was due. That during their being at Amsterdam, the said Norwood and one Griffith, who was afterwards agent for the late king of Scots at Dunkirk, proffered to the examine to be commander of a frigate, which they said they would set forth in the king's service (there having been a very intimate acquaintance between him and Norwood) but that proposition coming to nothing, and the occasions of this examine calling him away into Virginia, and he having delivered such of the said bills of exchange as remained in his hands unsatisfied unto one Mr. Edmund Custis, now dwelling in Lime-street, by direction of the said Norwood, and finished his account with him, he went again for Virginia, and so saw not the said Norwood again, untill the last summer, when he met him in London. And being demanded in what month he met him here in London, after his return from Virginia, he saith, it was about the month of August or September last; and were afterwards together about three or four times in these months and in October and November, but had no communication of any matters relating to the state more than that the said Norwood would say, that he hoped for better times, or to that effect. But this examine saith, that afterwards within the month of December this examine was told by Mr. Edmund Custis (with whom this examine often met and conversed about their own private affairs) that the said Norwood desired to meet with him the said Custis and this examine together about some business. And accordingly they did appoint to meet together at the tavern called the Hoop and Pye in Leadenhall-street, which, as he remembers, was upon Monday was three weeks, or thereabouts, whither this examine coming, he found, that the house was fallen on fire; but he standing still awhile, saw major Norwood in the entry, and went to him, and saluted him, and so they went together to a tavern in Cornhill, which he conceiveth was the Bear and Dolphin; mr. Custis being gone away from the said Norwood upon the first falling of the house on fire, as the said Norwood told this examine. And this examine farther saith, that when they were together in the tavern, the said Norwood told him, that lord Willoughby had a plantation to the south-west of Barbados called Savannah, with 600 men in it; and that they were sending now a ship thither with arms and other commodities, and invited this examine to engage in that business, and to help about buying arms and such other commodities they should send; but after much discourse concerning the business, the said Norwood told this examine, that this was not the business he intended to speak with him about, but now he would put his life into this examine's hands, and

and tell him, that the design was to bring in king Charles, meaning Charles Stuart, into England, or words to that effect; and that he had used the other discourse but as a colour to lead him to this. And that the arms he had desired him to buy were for this purpose; and then drank the king's health, and so after some other discourse of the same nature, and it being somewhat late, the said Norwood called for a coach, and went away, and the examine with him; and by the way as they went, the said Norwood told the examine farther of the design of bringing in the king; and to encourage him to engage in it, told him, that many had engaged in it; and that it was a likely business, and that he should be promoted and preferred for being serviceable therein, or words to that effect. And so they being come to the Temple, the said Norwood set down the examine there, appointing him to come to his chambers in the Temple with the first opportunity.

And the examine farther saith, that he went to the said Norwood's chamber the next day, where they had some farther discourse of the same business, and asked this examine whether Custis was to be trusted in this business; whereto he answered, that he thought he might. Whereupon he desired the examine to let mr. Custis know, that he desired to meet with him, and charged him not to reveal or disclose any thing to Custis. Accordingly the examine spake with the said Custis, and they three met together at the Fountain tavern in Fenchurch-street, where the said Norwood acquainted this Custis with the aforesaid plantation of the lord Willoughby's, and of their intentions of buying arms to send thither; and advised, which was the best way of buying them, but did not then in the hearing of the examine disclose to mr. Custis any thing of the design of bringing in the king. And the examine farther saith, that he after this went to major Norwood to his chambers several mornings together, where he saw some other gentlemen, whom this examine knew not, and spake with him about this business, as the buying of arms and horses; and in particular the said Norwood desired him this examine, that he might send a horse to his stable, and told him, that he this examine should ride next him in this service; and that they would fare both alike. And in case the king got his rights, they should both come to great preferment. And being demanded, where the next meeting was with Custis, he saith, that it was some few days after at the Fountain tavern in Fenchurch-street, where then the said Norwood spake to him of hiring a ship to send to Holland to fetch arms; and that if Custis would procure a ship, he should have 1000 l. for to buy arms with; and that the examine should be desired to go with the ship to buy them; and said the ship was to undertake to make her voyage within three weeks; and that she should land the arms in Kent, or some part of the West, as should be directed. And asked the said Custis, where he thought they might land them safely; where the said Custis answered, that there was a good place to land them in below Tilbury, where he did use to land some goods; and from thence the arms might be disposed by coach or otherwise, as might be thought fit. And so they parted, agreeing that Custis should hire a ship; and the ship that Norwood spoke of, which he desired might be hired, was a vessel of a brother's of the said Custis; the said Norwood saying he was well acquainted with him, and wished him by all means to make stay of him from a voyage he was then going upon. And the examine farther saith, that the said Norwood desired him to buy some carbines, and accordingly he this examine bespoke 20 carbines of Skinner the gunsmith in Leadenhall-street, which he afterwards fetch'd away, all of them being fix'd and fit for service; and had 25 l. from Norwood to pay for them, and others that were bought by mr. Custis. And being demanded, what he did with those arms, he said, that by the direction of the said major Norwood, he carried them in a cart to the White Hart, an inn in St. Giles's, to be sent into the country by the Birmingham carrier, the said Norwood telling him, that one mr. Lloyd should put the direction upon them at the inn, and delivered them to the porter of the said carrier in a box of new deal boards; the porter telling this examine, that he did very well know mr. Lloyd, that was to direct them. And this examine saith, that whilst he was in the yard of the inn, there was another white box about the same length with that brought by him, brought into the yard by a waterman, whom this examine hath several times seen (in a green coat with an eagle or falcon upon his arm,) with major Norwood, and delivered it unto the said porter; and that he also saw in the store-house, into which the said box was put, two or three great hampers, and one trunk, besides the two brought in as aforesaid. And being demanded, what other arms he had bought, or what he knew the said major Norwood had bought, and sent into the country, he saith, that the said major told him, that they had before his meeting with him bought great store of arms, and sent them into most parts of England in hampers and trunks, conceiving that to be the best way to convey them unsuspected, because bottles of wine and apparel are usually conveyed that way. And farther said, that they intended to rise all over England at once; and therefore all parts were to be armed at once; saying, that the examine knew how the Indians used to do in America, when they intended a massacre. And as to his buying of more arms than is before expressed, he saith, those that were afterwards bought were bought by mr. Custis; and his house was then

A. D. 1654.  agreed upon to be the magazine for arms, and accordingly several trunks and hampers of arms were sent into his house at Lime-street aforesaid, and from thence were to be conveyed into several parts of the nation. And the better to colour this design, he saith it was agreed amongst them, that the arms should be bought as for Virginia, and those parts, whither mr. Custis was at that time sending a ship. And he this examine, mr. Custis, and mr. Norwood did begin to draw up a cargo in form, as merchants use to do, to the intent, that if any discovery were made of the arms, it might be the better cleared and justified. And this examine did frame letters to major Gibbons, a merchant in New England, concerning goods, which were to be reshipped from Virginia to him. And being asked, what quantity of arms were laid up at the house of the said Custis, he saith, that as mr. Custis told him (at the time when the cargo aforesaid was making) there were laid up in his house 44 pair of pistols, 70 carbines, and 8 blunderbusses; and that divers others were brought in after that; the certain number whereof he cannot tell, but believes the said Custis can. And being asked, who bought the said arms, and sent them in, he saith, that he believes the said Custis himself bought some of them, but that the most of them were bought by others by the direction of Norwood. And saith, that a person, whom the said Norwood called Barton, and who was pretended to be a Chirurgion in the king's army at Oxford, sent in some of them. And it being farther demanded, what became of the arms, he saith, that one called by the said Norwood by the name of Tomlyns, did again fetch away some of them upon christmas day morning, in 4 trunks; and as mr. Custis told this examine, he carried them to the Castle-inn in Great Wood-street, to be delivered to a carrier there; but they being to be carried upon horse-back, two of the trunks were brought back again to the house of the said mr. Custis by a servant of the said Tomlyns, this examine being with mr. Custis at the time, when they were so brought back. And for the rest saith, it was agreed by Norwood and Tomlyns, as Custis told this examine, that a waggon was to be hired by Custis to carry them and others, which were to be sent to Loughborough in Leicestershire. And it being demanded of him, whether any such waggon was hired, he saith, it was not; for that the said Norwood found, that the protector had some notice of the design; and that thereupon he removed his lodging from the Temple to the house of the lady Newport, and from thence to the house of this examine in Surry, by the Thames side, where he was apprehended. And it being demanded of him, what became of the ship he the said Norwood bespake to be hired, he saith, that Custis kept the ship upon demurage for about 14 days, at the desire of the said Norwood, who pretended, that the gentleman, who was to furnish money for buying the arms, was not come to town. And besides, he said, they expected some great revolutions here very shortly, upon which they should take farther resolutions, as to the sending of that ship. And the examine farther saith, that upon occasion of hiring this ship, there was some discourse between him this examine, the said major Norwood, and mr. Custis, about them, the said Custis and this examine, going a share with Norwood in the ship. And it was propounded, that they two should go a third part, and he two parts; and for that part they were to venture Norwood promised to give them the ticket of some persons here, who had power to engage the king's faith for the repayment of it; but if that did not satisfy, he said they should have it under the king's own hand in a few days, to be repaid with double the value, when the king came to his right. But this examine saith, this proposition came to nothing, in respect that the said Norwood did upon saturday before he was apprehended at the house of Croone the vintner, called Campden-house, give order for discharging the ship. And he being demanded, who was with them at Croone's at the time aforesaid, he saith, that there was only the said Norwood, Custis, this examine, and the said mr. Tomlyns, who Norwood said was to go into the several countries upon monday after, to see how their affairs were there; and for that purpose Norwood desired mr. Custis to let him have 50 l. in gold, for 50 l. in silver, which 50 l. in silver was delivered unto mr. Custis by Norwood, and Norwood had it from mr. Croone, who the said Norwood said kept their bank, or words to that effect. And it being demanded of the examine, where they intended to have horse for their arms, he saith, that he had some discourse with the said Norwood thereupon, who told this examine, that several gentlemen had bought horses in the country, where they might be better and cheaper had than here. And besides he said they would plough with their own heifer; meaning, that they would make use of a good part of their army. And speaking of the feasibility of carrying things, he said, that the protector's army was but weak here; and farther, that the parliament and protector would not agree, many of them speaking high against him. And said, that one half of this parliament were for the king; and that therefore when the parliament should be dissolved, that was the time, when the rising should begin, when the members will be come into their countries, and have discovered their discontents to the people. And then and at other times said, whatever becomes of us, it's certain the protector is gone, is lost; and that he would be no more his highness; and other words to that effect. And this examine being demanded, where Tomlyns or Barton aforesaid were, or whether those were

were their right names, and what other names they had, he saith, he can make no other answer to these questions, but that he knows not. And this examine being asked, whether he had not heard Norwood speak of his former imprisonment by the protector, saith, that he did, and that the said Norwood would often say, that he was taken before for buying of arms, but got off again upon pretence, that he was buying of arms for Virginia.

A. D. 1654.

RICHARD GLOVER.

The protector to the Spanish ambassador.

SIR,

BY our former letters we represented to you the case of the sons and executors of sir Peter Ricaut deceased, concerning a debt owing the said sir Peter by his majesty the now king of Spain; and moved your endeavours for obtaining to them satisfaction according to justice. But no satisfactory answer being returned, and application being made unto us by the said parties for letters of reprisal, as the only remedy that is left them in the case; we thought fit to consult our council thereabouts, who putting the same into a way of examination, it appears to us by a report, that his said majesty by his schedule royal, signed by his own hand, and dated at his court at Arancuez the 12th of April 1652, acknowledged himself indebted to the said sir Peter Ricaut in the sum of 23128408 maravedies of silver, [together with damages from the year 1647, which being cast up till the date of the said report doth clearly amount to 23,073 l. sterling,] being for several sums of money acknowledged by the said king to be lent by sir Peter Ricaut to his ambassador here in England for his majesty's service, and for a ship laden with fish, which had been wrongfully taken from him, and sold in Cartagena by his majesty's order, and for other considerations in the said schedule particularly expressed; by which schedule royal his majesty doth give command to the officers of his royal treasury, to make effectual and speedy payment of the said money, giving for reason, that it appeared to his majesty by report of his council, that his royal treasure was condemned by a sentence of the 25th of June 1647, for payment of the debt within nine days after the said sentence passed. We find also, that for sixteen years last past all fit endeavours have been diligently used for attaining of satisfaction, which (as also two journeys made purposely in this behalf to the court of Spain, by the eldest son of the said sir Peter, at 1000 l. sterling charge) have proved ineffectual; so that upon the whole matter justice hath been duly demanded, and is yet delayed. And in consideration thereof and of the fruitlessness of our own mediation by our said letters, it hath been insisted upon, that letters of reprisal should be granted to the said sons and executors against the king of Spain and his subjects, for satisfaction of the said debt together with damages and expences sustained through the detention thereof. The satisfaction we have therein received as to the state of fact might be a sufficient foundation for our resolution forthwith to grant the petitioners letters of reprisals; yet out of our very great willingness to decline extraordinary ways, that the parties concerned may be assured in an ordinary way to receive justice, and out of our affection to his majesty of Spain, we are determined once more to represent this matter to your excellency, with our serious desires, that you will take such a speedy and effectual order therein, as may satisfy and secure the petitioners to receive their just right, wherein we shall expect your speedy and positive answer, that thereby the inconvenience that may ensue an extraordinary course, which our respect to common justice, and to the long suffering of our people will otherwise necessitate us unto, may be prevented; wherein we shall take much contentment, as most suitable to the desires we have to maintain a good correspondence betwixt the two nations,

Jan. 3, 1654.

OLIVER. P.

*For his excellency the lord ambassador
for the king of Spain.*

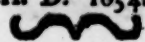
*A copy of verses writ with colonel Overton's own hand, and found with him upon
search.*

A Protector, what's that? 'Tis a stately thing,
That confesseth itself but the ape of a king:
A tragicall Cæsar acted by a clown;
Or a brass farthing stamp'd with a kind of a crown:

V. xi. p. 576.
V. xii. p. 71.

A bubble,

A. D. 1654.



A bubble, that shines; a loud cry without woole;
 Not Perillus nor Phalaris, but the bull.
 The eccho of monarchy till it come;
 The but end of a barrell in the shape of a drum:
 A counterfeit piece, that woddenly shoves
 A golden effigies with a copper nose.
 The fantastick shadow of a soveraign head,
 The arms royal revers'd, and disloyal instead.
 In fine he is one, we may protector call,
 From whom the king of kings protect us all.

Leith, 3 January 1654.

This paper we found in major general Overton's letter case among his papers, we being appointed to search his papers by the deputy governor there. Witness our hands,

WILLIAM NEWMAN,
 WILLIAM COLLINSON.

An intercepted letter of king Charles II.

Amsterdam, January 4, 1655.

MR. ROLES,

V. xxi. p. 276.

I Cannot but tell you, that yours of the third of the last month brought me the most melancholique account of my condition, that I have yett receaved, and therefore I could have wished you had bene more particular. I had reason to have beleevd, that many of my creditors had bene more mollified towards me then by yours they seeme to be; and that some debts dew to me, and which are not yett discovered before the commiffioners, might be gotten in towards the perfecting my composition. Is it posible, that all that is dew from 46 30 52 68 (which I looke upon as ready mony) will not be payde at the time you will appointe? Is none of that from 215 366 66 39 63 31 74 67 113 64 80 27 47 71 28 48 55 75 352 36 47 55 67 68 31 63 269, ready to be layde downe? And if halfe, that could be gott in, would not more come in a shorte time? I looke upon what may with good follicitation be got from 239 41 67 48 32 288 31 47 80, as a good foundation and security to satisfye many of the creditors, and upon such an occasion, 356 97 339 357 150 something. And I doubt not but you are able to save somewhat upon your particular account, and therfore I am confident you have more hope of a good and speedy end, than you expresse, and that you were reserved now the more to surprise me shortly with comfort, at least that you are ready with a competent summe to lay downe, if any fitt of good nature apeares in any of the creditors, which I do expect weekly to heare of, and cannot beleve that much time will passe without it. However I must conjure you to take some order, that I may be fully informed what I may depend upon, and the true grounde of any delays in pressing the composition, and what reasonable grounde there is of hope from those delays; for I will deale freely with you as my best frinde, that I am so unable with any satisfaction to myselfe to beare this condition of life much longer, that if there be not a probable hope of obtayning my composition in a reasonable time, I resolve to take conditions from these states to serve against the Portugalls in the Indyces, or to serve the Venetians against the Turkes, rather then live this idle life. Upon the whole matter let me heare from you, 114 20 28 41 66 25 63 30 32 68 31 44 167, in such a manner as may at least fully instruct me of what I may looke for, as you love,

Good mr. Roles,

your most affectionate

humble servant,

J. WESTROPE.

*For my loving frind mr. Roles, at his house
 in Cornwall neere the Exchange, London.*

General Monk to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

V. xxii. p. 109.

THE last night col. Overton coming in custody to Leith, I have this morneing sent him on board the Basing frigott, whereof captaine Harley is commander, whom I have ordered to bring colonel Overton into the Hope. I send your highnesse heere inclosed

copies of papers found with him, and particularly of verses written with his owne hand; fe- A. D. 1654.
serving the papers themselves, untill I have conveniency to send them by a safe hand to
your highness. The inclosed letter to col. Overton being intercepted, I thinke fit alsoe to
send it to your highness.

Concerning major Bramston, I have noething against him but the papers (written with
his owne hand) of which I lately sent copies to your highness. I doubt, if hee be brought
to a court martial, those papers will not bee there judged of soe much waight as to cashere
him, (though I thinke hee deserves it) because he may denye it to bee his owne conceptions
or first drawing.

Wherefore I humbly desire a signification of your highnesse's pleasure, if I shall send
that paper of major Bramston's to your highness. I now send your highness a copie of some
litle confused papers, written by mr. Oats's owne hand, and found about him, when hee was
search'd at Leith. I humbly take leave, and remaine

Dalkeith, 4 January,
1654.

Your highnesse's

most humble and most

faithfull servant,

GEORGE MONK.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to secretary Thurloe.

MONSIEUR,

J'AY receu la responce, qu'ill vous a plu de m'envoyer, avec la lettre, dont elle estoit V.xxi. p.444.
accompagnée; & parce que vous me marques, que s'il reste quelque scrupules, mess. les
commisaires sont prests de s'entrer en conference pour les oster, & que sans doute vous
juges bien vous mesme, que ceste responce ne leve aucune des difficultes, qui restent, qu'au
contraire elle en laisse que m. le protecteur sembloit avoir surmontée dans ma derniere
audience, je ne refuse pas d'en conferer encore, le plus promptement qu'il se pourra. Et
pour cet effect je vous prie, monsieur, de faire entendre a son Altesse, que si elle est portée
du desir de s'accommoder, il est necessaire qu'elle donne pouvoir, s'il lui plaist, a mess.
les commisaires de passer au dessus des difficultes, qui s'opposent au bien des deux estats,
Je suis

Vostre tres humble serviteur,

Le Jan. 4. 1654.

D. BORDEAUX.

Monfr. Datin to the count de Bonneau.

[London] 14 January 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

I AM glad you have received my last letter, which will have informed you at large of all V.xxii. p.1174
circumstances relating both to our negotiation and the affairs of this state. I do always
endeavour to write the matter of fact as true as I can for my life; neither do I differ in
any thing from what my lord ambassador doth write himself to the court. There
is not yet any thing apparent, which doth destroy the suspicion we have here, that the fleet
is to make some landing in Lower Languedoc. A zealous catholick, preferring the in-
terest of his religion before the greatness and powerfulness of his nation, having learnt
something of this design, gave advice thereof to our ambassador, who presently advertised
the court thereof. Three famous French Huguenots, who live here, have told me the
same thing; not that I think they know it certainly, but only that they wish it to be so.
This advice is of consequence, and good use, I hear, hath been made of it.

There hath been no conference at my lord ambassador's upon the treaty of peace, but
there hath been some kind of discourse had with the commissioners at the secretary of state's
lodgings, in reference to the difficulties, which do still remain. I verily believe, that we
shall not break with them, but upon extremity, and that it is resolved so at court.

Here is another plot, as they call it, discovered; few believe it, and many look upon it
rather as a mystery than a truth; yet some of the conspirators are said to be apprehended,
who are also said to have confessed the fact.

The parliament doth still proceed to finish their resolutions to present them to the pro-
tector. The question will be, whether he will accept and approve of them.

A. D. 1654. Here are 30 frigats more appointed to guard their narrow seas. It is a wonder to behold the maritime power of this state; their trade and commerce do begin to flourish.

The embassador of Genoa made this day his entry into this city in one of the lord protector's coaches. The French embassador's coach followed the very next with six of his gentlemen in it, upon a belief, that the Spanish embassador would have sent his coach, and his men, who would have pretended the first place, and to have marched before the French. Our gentlemen were forewarned, and had put themselves in a posture not to receive the affront; but the Spaniards did absent themselves; so that the French did triumph without any trouble, not without danger.

Capt. Robert Hope to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

V. xxii. p. 201. **T**HE last day of December, there came orders to mee from his highnes, to sease the persones of sir Henery Littleton, high sherrife of Wostershire, and sir John Packington, booth which are apprehended, and sent up to London, accordinge to his highnes order. Also dillegent search hath beene for armes, which accordinge to information weare the last week brought to booth there houses by one Henery Rose a carrier; but noe such armes as was informed of could bee found out. The carrier, that did bringe the severall parcelles that are mentioned in the inclosed, beinge by that information (that was sent unto mee) a Bromingam man (but is a carrier that lives at Bromesgrove) could not then bee found out. Haveinge heard this day that the carrier Rose doth live at this place, I came forthwith to exfamyne him, what goodes hee brought downe from London, and findinge him gone away towards London againe, I have taken, I suppose, perfect information of all the loadinge, that hee brought, and the persones to whom they dow belonge. The carrier Henery Rose will bee at the White Hart in St. Goyleffe's upon wenesday or thursday next. If your honour please to exfamine him, it will appeare then whether what hee saith bee truth, by compareinge it with the inclosed, and may tend to the makeinge further discoverye. My leefftenant, who is bringinge up the two knightes, will bee able to give you an account what may bee supposed was brought in the boxses, trunkes, and hampers. This is that account that I did judge my dutye to give to your honour, to whom I crave leave to subscribe myfelfe,

Bromesgrove, the 5th of January,
1654.

Your honor's humble
and faythfull servant,
ROBERT HOPE.

A letter of intelligence from Holland.

SIR,

V. xxii. p. 167. **M**Y last unto you was the 8th, whereby I gave you notice of the receipt of yours of the 22d past. Since no letters are arrived from London, so as I have little to add at present more then what is wrote to me from Ceullen, the which I have inclosed, whereby you may observe, that their designe appeares more publickly, which makes mee thinke it will shortly be put in execution; and the rather because captaine Mews this weeck told mee, Middleton would remayne in the hills, until he received orders to remove southward, when he should not want friends to joyne with him. Mews and Straughan are at Amsterdam recommended by mr. William Davidtson and Richard Bridgman (both knowne and profess enemyes to the commonwealth) to assist them and direct them in their journey. One or both intends to goe by the way of England, either for Yarmouth, Hull, or Newcastle, as they find shippinge; but so long as this frost lasts they cannot get a passage from these parts. I understand there shall be no armes sent to Middleton before one of these two now going to him returne with an answer. I suppose Charles Stewart will keepe what monyes he can procure for his English affaires, it having bin the proposition of Wilmot to have a considerable summe of money ready against their arrivale in Scotland or England, wherewith to deboynt the souldiers, by putting forth a proclamation, that all horsemen which will come in to them shall have 4 l. and a foote souldier 30 s. but accordinge to the paiement of the contribution in Germany they can have not above 20 or 25000 l. for the one half of the princes have not payed. Collonel Marmaduke Darcey is uppon his returne to Ceullen from England, where he hath prepared the waye for his master, whoe hath made choyse of him for his guide, when

he goes thither. The gentleman, with whome I used to confer, is not yet returned from Antwerp. This is all I have to trouble you with of concernment. I am

January $\frac{5}{11}$ 1654.

Your most faythful and humble servant,

JOHN ADDAMS.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

SIR,

UPON the writing of Freisland reduced or inserted in the resolution of the seventh, for the recalling of the lord Nieuport, and for the report of the lord Beverning, there hath been yet nothing done on the behalf of Holland. That however something will be done; as also the other provinces in their assemblies will resolve one thing or other; for

Orange party certainly 145 will not sleep; and it is a principal point of deliberation upon this assembly. I can assure you, there is nothing done in the negotiations concerning the treaties with France nor with Poland. The minister of Poland residing here doth go for England. That is a sign, that the treaty with Poland will sleep for some time. You will have seen the writing, which some have caused to be inserted in the resolution above-mentioned. The first project of that contained a clause; for it is very well known by experience, that such treaties for navigation are kept and observed no otherwise than according to the appetite and interest of those that are masters at sea.

But the most part of the province were against that, and caused it to be put out, fearing that the English would be offended at it, and that would have confirmed the complaints of the Spaniards, who hearing of the treaty of navigation with this state have often said, that here it was not observed; for the free booters or privateers men of war had this custom to plunder all ships at sea, although their commission, to which they were sworn, did oblige them to bring all their prizes to the college of the Admiralty, to whom they were also sworn to be judged their first prize. Instead whereof they generally plundered all that they could catch at sea, that could be hid, as money, clothes, provisions, and the like; in short all that could be carried away; and besides they often tortured the masters and mariners to tell them, where they had hid their money; and although the Admiralty did declare the goods to be no prize (which did seldom happen) yet there was never any recompence made for what was plundered, nor ever justice done upon those that used those tortures, tyrannies, and violences, wherein those of Zealand and North-holland did exceed; at Amsterdam and Rotterdam least of all. And the excuse of the judges of the admiralty was, that they were not masters, that the rabble did dispense with all order. In the mean time I can testify to have heard from the mouths of the governors themselves, that they would rather assault all the world by sea without any distinction, than suffer their commerce to be diverted; or that it should be carried or transmigrated into any other part, as in effect formerly the commerce through the assistance of the English was driven out of Flanders, and settled in Holland. And so this state did fear the return thereof; and that the commerce might be driven again from hence by the English, and settled elsewhere; which they thought to prevent by all manner of depredations; so that the said clause did contain a great truth; but it seemeth that the lord Nieuport hath forgot that, when in his letter of the 1st of January he speaks of the complaints of the cities of Holland against the protector

the reprizals of the English. However I do confess, that 130 hath now great reason the ft. of Holl. Holland

to treat 105 equally and civilly, and keep a good correspondence with 105, for without the Hollanders the Orange party the protector that, 105 would suffer by 145; but if 130 doth now favour them, they will subsist well enough.

The lord Beverning doth seem to be altogether *immersus in amoribus*, for he doth not appear here. It is still very confidently reported, that he shall be of the council, for the charge of treasurer will require much time before it can be had.

The states of Holland after their fashion do meet slowly; whereunto doth help to retard the extraordinary frost we have here. They have also sent them the resolution of the 7th concerning the reports of the lord Beverning and Nieuport for the act of seclusion; upon which resolutions without doubt there hath been debated in the common council, for Holland having promised indemnity, and to bear those two ambassadors harmless, will maintain it; and I do understand, that those of Holland do speak reciprocally, that in case they will prosecute the lords Beverning and Nieuport, that Holland will annul the act of amnesty of Aug. 1651, which you will find in the *recomposed or restored lion*; and will use retortion against those, who in the said amnesty do find their absolution.

But

A. D. 1654. But men will say, that the said amneſty doth not regard what is paſt, and that this ſeclution is a new thing, although that all doth ſpring from the ſame root. I do ſee, that the moſt part of the provinces by plurality will reſolve ſomething to the prejudice of the ſaid lords Beverning and Nieuport; but if Holland doth not embroil itſelf, or be divided, all will ſignify nothing. Wind and time will wear it out; for Zeland itſelf dare not do any thing to any purpoſe; and as you know, in the other provinces there are alſo diviſions; yea in the chiefeſt cities, as Deventer, Arnheim, Teil, Nimeguen, Utrecht, Bommel, Middleburgh, Zierixze, Tolen, &c. And whoſoever doth not find his account with — or the — do join with — and beſides Holland alone in the balance of force doth ſurpaſs all the reſt. In ſhort it will only depend upon their own mutual agreement and conſtancy; and in the end all theſe reſolutions and proteſtations will be of no effect; and amongſt—likewiſe there is no equal reſolution nor courage. All manner of factions and humours *recipiunt magis & minus*. The leaſt part is ſo in the ſuperlative degree. Concerning the judicature of the priſoner Haex, I do underſtand, that the lords of Holland may at laſt reſolve to leave it to the judicature of the ſtates general, or to ſuch as they ſhall appoint, under a proteſt *de non præjudicando in futurum*, to the end there might be an end made of all the diſpute. But however for all that they would in no wiſe draw it into a conſequence, for fear of engaging the lords Beverning and Nieuport into the ſame judicature. Holland will alſo ſpeak again of equipping 36 ſhips for the Mediterranean; and to draw Zealand likewiſe to it in their paſſage, they will torment and vex Portugal. The merchants of Amſterdam, although the lord Nieuport writes nothing of it, have advice, that the lord protector will diſſolve the Eaſt-India company at London, and declare the navigation and commerce to the Indies to be free and open. That doth cauſe great jealouſy at Amſterdam, as a thing that will very much prejudice the Eaſt-India company in Holland. I the Orange party do not fundamentally underſtand this matter, but I can ſay thus much, that — the commerce of Holland will only laugh at it, if the Engliſh ſhould give a check to — to the Orange party verify the prediction, that the deceaſed prince Henry and — have ſo often ſaid, that England coming to be a commonwealth would ruin the commerce of Holland, Hollanders and draw it wholly to themſelves; and alſo amongſt the good — there are ſome that do believe, that the commerce doth only belong to them alone, and do repute it for an injury, if another nation doth pretend any thing to the commerce.

The general conſul of the French, mr. Jannot, doth complain, and thinks himſelf injured, that he is not admitted in the ſame quality at Rotterdam; for they do admit the conſuls of this ſtate in all parts in France; ſo likewiſe, ſaith he, all thoſe of France ought to be admitted; but ſay thoſe of Rotterdam, in this country here are no governors that torment and trouble the maſters of ſhips; and here ſtrangers are uſed as well as the natives.

They had formerly ſent to the lord Heinſius credentials to treat with the king of Sweden about the buſineſs of Bremen; but now he doth ſend to have a general credential; whereupon, in regard all had not conſented to the ſalary, thoſe of Zealand do make a ſcruple; and it is thought they do it to the end that the charge of ordinary embaſſador in England is pretended to belong to the province of Zealand.

It is ſaid, that Holland will depute the lord Beverning to the aſſembly of the ſtates general, till ſuch time as he hath obtained the charge of treaſurer. His wooing will not yet ſucceed, but the lord penſionary is going to Amſterdam to conclude his marriage.

The lord Beeck hath exhibited a juſtification of the ſtates of Overyſſell and Deventer. The lord Woolſſen hath oppoſed it, ſaying it to be an untruth, that two members do uſurp the name of the ſtates of Overyſſell. By the next I can ſend you a copy. I am

Your moſt humble ſervant.

15 January 1655. [N. S.]

A letter of intelligence.

SIR,

V.xxii. p.153. **T**HE incloſed were ſent unto me, and recommended from Bremen. The ſubject and argument is a lamentation upon the great damages and arrears, into which they are fallen, by the perſecution of the earl of Oldenburgh, who having begged paſſage under very falſe pretences, it did oblige the good city to oppoſe it, as they have done ſince the year 1623, with great charges, as well to guard the river by two ſhips, ſometimes Bremen more; as alſo to gain favour at the court of the emperor; and what ſhall I ſay? 158 did put

A. D. 1654.

states general states of Holland
put too much confidence in 104 and 105, and (he alas) hath found they were but cold

you
friends; which words I remember the lord 126 did formerly apply to the same people; which coldness doth still continue, it being very true, that they are now out of the war, but without evident danger they cannot subsist, nor keep their garrison, if they be not assisted. As for the rest I refer myself to the letters.

January 15, 1655. [N. S.]

John de Witt to Nieuport.

Amsterdam, January 15, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

I HAVE received both your letters of the 25th of the last and the first of this month. There hath been nothing done farther in the business for the renewing of the alliance with France since my last. And I shall not fail, as much as lieth in my power, so to manage that business, if it doth proceed, that in the business, which doth concern the navigation and commerce, the like conditions shall be agreed upon, as this state hath obtained of Spain. We do expect here with great impatience the issue of the negotiation of mt. de Neufville; and many do fear here a bad issue of it, by reason of so many delays. The affairs in the province of Overysell have remained of late in one and the same condition, and nothing considerable hath been resolved by the one and the other part. I do hope, that business will have a good issue. I am very much troubled about it. The lords of Friesland do still continue their opposition and disaffection upon the subject concerning the lord Beverning and the seclusion.

V.xxii.p.149.

The assembly of their noble great lordships of Holland is not yet full, but will be within few days. The chiefest subject of this meeting will be the securing of their commerce and navigation.

Chanut, the French ambassador in Holland, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Hague, January 15, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

WE have had no letters out of England this week; and I am the more troubled, that your affairs are at last brought to extremity, and that you will have a certain resolution. I was told two days since, that a merchant at Amsterdam had advice, that you were gone from London; and that the protector had sent a gentleman after you to Gravesend, to desire you to return. Divers at Amsterdam have published, that you were returned into France. I cannot believe, that you will pass the sea before you have concluded our accommodation. We have here all our eyes upon you, and we discourse of nothing else but of England.

V.xxii.p.145.

The assembly of the states of Holland doth only begin. Those of Friesland do still press to have the lord Beverning to give an account of his embassy; and that it may be done jointly, they propound to recall the lord Nieuport. The lords commissioners of the provinces have sent it to be debated by the lords their principals. They speak here no more of the renewing of the alliance, than if they had never known France. You will have heard of the disorders happened at Courtray between the inhabitants and the regiment of Bonnifaci, that was quartered there. It is wholly destroyed. There was a bloody slaughter on both sides. The city hath sent word to the archduke, that in case they have not satisfaction given them, they will put themselves under the protection of the king of France.

An intercepted letter of sir W. Vane to sir Henry Vane.

Hague, January 15, 1655. [N. S.]

THE assembly is now met, though they have adjourned till thursday next. They are to make an end of their resolutions concerning their militia, which maketh me desire to see them to part, before I begin my journey. The last week those of Friesland made a proposition to recall Nieuport out of England, that the ambassadors might jointly give an account of that private article, which was passed against the house of Orange; that there

V.xxii.p.157.

A. D. 1654 should be a leager embassador sent thither; and notice given to the protector that this article was disapproved. But it had no consequence, and no resolution was taken, though some believe there will be.

Mr. Geo. Palmer to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

Vol. xxxiv.
p. 209.

I HAVE according to his highnes commande sent mr. Edward Vernon, mr. Walter Vernon, and mr. Browne to the martiall genrall; and also have sent to apprehend the person that gave order for leaving the trunks at mr. Walter Vernon his house, to the end he may be examined; and then shall send his deposiſſion. But for the carrier of Ashburn, I sent a party to Weedon to meet him, and searcht both him and two other carriers, whose was to mee rendered ſuſpicious, but found no more then the 3 fowling pieces before-mentioned; yet in regard of his highnes pleasure I have sent to search mr. Cotton his house, and thereof shall give your honour a further accompt. This buſines of ſearching theſe armes I hope will proove of great mercy to theſe parts; for truly it is very observable to ſee how good people's mindes are now ſatiſfied in the evill deſigne intended by malignants. The Lord direct his to walke ſutable to ſee great mercyes, which ſhall bee the daily deſire of your honour's

Coventry, January 5
1654.

Humble ſervant,

GEO PALMER.

The information of John Roſe brother to Henry Roſe the carrier, who liveth at Bromſgrove, taken the 5th day of January 1654, concerning what loading his brother John Roſe brought down from London the week laſt paſt, and for whom the ſame was brought.

V. xxii. p. 81.

Imprimis, FOR ſir Henry Littleton two boxes made of inch fir boards, being about four foot long, and one foot broad; the weight of which was three hundred weight or thereabout. What was in them he knoweth not.

2. One hamper of one hundred weight faſt bound up with cords.
3. One trunk of about three foot longe, the weight of which was about two hundred.
4. One little box that was not above eight or ten pound weight. Theſe were delivered at ſir Henry Littleton's houſe the 29th of December laſt; but what the goods were that were in the boxes, &c. he knoweth not.
5. Two great hampers that were delivered to ſir John Packington the 2d of December, the weight of which was five hundred weight; and was, as the informant believeth, bottles of wine, or ſome liquid things, in reſpect he heard ſomething daſh in the hampers, when they were unloaded.
6. One rundlet of wine, which was delivered to mr. Davis of Wich.
7. Two firkins of ſoap for mr. Porter of Bromſgrove, and one ſmall parcel of goods lap'd up in a paper for mr. Goffes of the ſame.
8. Twenty one fiſhes, fifteen whereof were for the informant, and fix for the carrier John Roſe his own uſe.

The examination of Edmond Cuſtis taken Jan. 5, 1654.

V. xxii. p. 209.

WHO ſaith, that his firſt acquaintance with major Henry Norwood was at Amſterdam, at which time he had about 1000 l. in his hands of ſir William Berkeley's, who then ordered this examinee to pay the ſaid 1000 l. to him the ſaid Norwood or his order; which accordingly he did, and then the ſaid Norwood went for England, being anno 1651, and thence to Virginia, and ſaw him not ſince till about ten months ago, when he had only diſcourſe with him about the Virginia trade. Since that about ſix weeks ago the ſaid Norwood ſent for this examinee to Cambden-houſe, where he came with two of his friends, namely, captain Baldwin and Joſeph Cuſtis, in whoſe hearing was only common diſcourſe, except that he deſired the examinee to provide 2 or 3 trumpets for him, as alſo 2 Dutch caſe bottles, which occaſioned this examinee to inquire of his ſaid two friends, how he might beſt procure them. And privately the ſaid Norwood acquainted this examinee,

nate, that the lord Willoughby was erecting a new plantation beyond or besides Barbados; A. D. 1654.
 and that he the said Norwood was going thither; and that if this examine would share
 in an adventure with him, he would insure great gains. The commodities named this
 examine hath forgotten; only doth well remember pistols was included by requiring his
 reason, how any quantity thereof could be vended there to profit. But farther this
 examine doth not remember, being he then set the design at such distance, as no hopes
 of principal again, much less profit. That once after that he came to some tavern
 near this examine's house, and tarried some while, and sent for him, who not coming
 timely to his the said Norwood's mind, saw him not that day, but met with him
 suddenly after, when he desired this examine to acquaint mr. Richard Glover with his
 desire to meet them both at a glass of wine: the time and place appointed was on monday
 following at the Hoop and Pye in Leadenhall-street, where the examine accordingly came,
 and with him brought his aforesaid two friends, as not thinking of any thing but a merry
 meeting. Where we had not been an hour, but the house taking fire casually, mr. Glover
 not being come, each one shifted out of the doors, and so major Norwood left this exami-
 nate in the multitude, and saw him no more that night, which was, as he supposeth, the
 11th of December last; and on friday following, being the 15th, the said Glover came to this
 examine, and as they were going together to buy hogs in Smithfield, told this examine,
 that he had seen major Norwood that day, who had desired him to appoint time and place
 where they three might meet, which he did to be the next day at the Fountain in Fen-
 church-street, where the substance of their discourse was, that the design for Barbados was
 to be furthered by mr. Glover, and this examine, who should buy such pistols, carbines,
 and other arms, as he the said major Norwood should direct us, who would give us ready
 money; and that they should be brought to this examine's house, there to be kept till the
 ship Charles was ready, and that he should provide a vessel forthwith to go for Amsterdam
 to fetch 1000 l. worth of arms; and that they should farther gain 15 s. for every 9 s. they
 did so bestow. To that end this examine's brother Robert Custis was pitcht on by
 the said Norwood for that design, who accordingly was kept up by this examine two
 posts from another voyage under pretence of expecting order from Amsterdam of the price
 of certain merchandizes, as train oil, &c. and that this examine was to land the arms at
 a convenient place twenty miles off, to save custom.

Farther saith, that during their being at the said tavern, one mr. Barton (who came there
 with his man before major Norwood, and attended the coming of mr. Glover and this ex-
 aminate) went forth, and within a quarter of an hour returned with a cart, and thereon
 two trunks with arms, and with this examine went and delivered the same into this
 examine's house. And tuesday after major Norwood, mr. Glover and this examine met
 again at the said fountain, where at his first coming was a waterman with a green or blue
 coat, and some fowl on his sleeve for a badge, at which time major Norwood disclosed the
 true intention of the said arms, that they were to be disposed to several places in the
 country, to arm men at the rising of the parliament, and in all places to rise together for
 the establishing of king Charles; adding, they were assured of the greater part of the
 army for them, and the whole did not consist of above 12000. Saith, that afterwards
 they had sundry meetings, during which time two trunks and three chests of arms were
 brought to his house; as also mr. Glover and this examine had bought with monies received
 of major Norwood by the said Glover 20 carbines, which he ordered mr. Glover to de-
 liver for the Birmingham carrier somewhere in St. Giles's; as also mr. Glover and this
 examine bought, by major Norwood's directions, 30 carbines more, which were brought to
 this examine's house. Also a few days after a box was sent to this examine's house; therein,
 as mr. Tomlyns saith, are bits for horses bridles; and that upon Christmas-day last mr. Tom-
 lyns and his man came to this examine's house with a coach and a porter, and by them car-
 ried away 4 trunks, whereof they brought two back again the same morning, being too
 heavy for the carrier's horses. And then or about that time this examine was ordered by
 major Norwood and mr. Tomlyns to hire a waggon, that should take its lading with arms
 to Loughborough, to be delivered within two or three miles there, which was to have been
 performed this week. Also this examine hath, by major Norwood's directions, bespoke
 4 trumpets, and given earnest for them. And further, that this examine did discharge
 the vessel, by his directions, about saturday last, on which day this examine with mr.
 Glover met with mr. Tomlyns and major Norwood at a place called Croone's or Cambden-
 house, where they had order to desist proceeding, till two or three days further, because of
 a plot suspected at White-hall; and had some discourse to the same effect as formerly,
 and closed that evening with an exchange to give 50 l. in gold for 50 l. in silver, which this
 examine received there of major Norwood.

EDMOND CUSTIS.

A letter

A letter of intelligence.

Dantzick, January 16, 1655. [N. S.]

A. D. 1654.
V. xxii. p. 173.

LETTERS out of Poland speak of the good progress of the Polish army with the new Tartarian succors against the Cossacks in the Ukraine, having destroyed the most part of them, and forced Chmilinsky to retreat to Corfan, suing now for the league, which not long ago he rejected. The party that was commanded to relieve Witebesko being too late, resolved to attempt some adventure in the field, which succeeded to their desire; for that having good intelligence, that 8 cannons, 3000 pikes, some hundreds of muskets, and some ammunition with a convoy of 5000 Muscovites being designed for Polotzky, but prevented by the frost, and landed some where near the river Dune, they fell upon them unawares, slew most of them, and tooke the rest with all the spoyle. Upon which good success, it is said they went further, routing divers troopes of the enemy, and retaking some places of small account. From Wilda they write the 3d of January, that upon the 29th past both the Littawish gen. with the whole body were broken up from Minsk to Bicko and Mohilo, whither the aforefaid party were also commanded to repair.

A letter of intelligence.

Hague, January 16, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

V. xx. p. 231.

YOUR'S I have by this post, for which I thank you. My letters to you now are as short as heretofore they were longe, little being done now here that concerns Eng-lande in state matters, but all concerning merchants and trade, which merchants there can tell you better than I can. Our ambassador Nieuport's letters weekly import only such matters, and the proceedings of parliament, which is needless to repeat to you. We have been in silence and quietness a good while, free from the fruits of the division among the provinces, but now afresh, the province of Friesland puts in a paper, redemiring, that the ambassador Beverning and Nieuport may be required to give account to the states general of their negotiation in England. It is doubted, some other of the provinces will also renew such papers, and then there may be some work hear to be sent to you. It is thought Jongestall is active underhand in this business against Beverning and Nieuport, being not pleased with them in England. It is not pressed here lately for the renovation of the alliance with France, some provinces being very forward for it, as you had in former letters from,

Sir, your's.

*A letter of intelligence from mr. Augier's secretary.*Paris the 1st of January 1654.

V. xxii. p. 191.

ISEND you here inclosed the particulars this gazettier hath given us of the duke of Guise's adventures, according to the relation he hath sent thereof to court; where they seem to be more and more angry against Mr. Folleville, both by reason of his want of conduct, and also by maxim of state to cover the reputation of the king's arms, as though their design would not without him have miscarried; in so much that orders have been sent to Provence to bring him prisoner here, and that his process may be made.

My last of the 1st of this instant will have informed you of the pope's sickness. All Paris has been filled with the rumor of his death, but by reason the last ordinary from Rome did only mention his agony, the wiser sort will not yet give farther credit thereunto.

The letters from Lyons inform us, that the court of Savoy had so murmured against the sojourning of the French troops in that country, that part of them were descended into Dauphiné.

The person named White, who was last saturday sent a prisoner to the Bastille, was next day carried to the Louvre to be examined by the cardinal himself, who shewed him some writings, whereon he stood all amazed; after which he was sent back into his prison.

They do still speak of taking the treasure from mr. de Servien.

Mr. de Neufville's father is exceeding sick, if not dead, at this hour. The bishop of A. D. 1654.
Lectoure is deceased before him, leaving several benefices unto cardinal Mazarin.

Mr. de Machaud prepares himself to go and re-establish the marquis de la Mouffaye in the government of Rennes, in spite of the superstitious papists; and by reason he is a man much indifferent in matters of religion, there is no question of his good success therein.

It is written from Marfeilles of the 5 instant, 26 past, that general Blake was 4 days since arrived at Leghorn with 14 ships, and that the Marseillers feared much, lest he should meet with some merchant ships they have in the Levant.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, January 16, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

I HAVE received two of your's since my former of the 4th and 7th instant, by V. xxii. p. 179.
which I see no cause of complaints among you; but some say, there was a new plot yet against his highness the lord protector, to the profit of king Charles, who has a great party in that parliament and other places yet in England, and several other places, which they expect to bring to some perfection some time or other, as occasion shall serve. Now you have your letters from Rome by the ordinary post, who could not have the news of the pope's death, of which we expect the confirmation by another extraordinary.

Our forces bound for Bretagne and Normandy towards the sea side have received counter-orders to return, hearing the English fleet intends not for France. Of our ambassador there I heard nothing since my former; only he will stay as yet where he is, and he will treat by words, as he is himself entertained; but it's thought their treaty will not go forward, as I know the reasons, because neither of them dares trust the other. It's written from Turin, the 2d instant, that mademoiselle's picture was brought thither to the duke of Savoy, which they esteemed very handsome and agreeable; but the princes Maurice and Thomas often in discourse with madam royale endeavour to break that design, and bring on that Savoy should marry the cardinal Mazarin's niece, and the king the infanta of Spain, also the duke of Anjou the infanta of Portugal; but all are but discourses in the lip, though it might partly come to an end.

The last news we hear from the duke de Guise is, that he is gone to St. Baulme, to perform his promise at sea, when he was in dangers, and give thanks to God, that saved him from those perils. Now he begins to be holy and devout after all. From that place we expect him here, but it's thought he will make no great stay in it, but return to Languedoc to see the prince of Conti, and encrease his forces for the next occasion.

Mr. Comte de Grandpré, who was changed in Flanders for mr. Coligny Salignac arrived here two days ago to give thanks to his majesty and his eminence.

The king was a hunting at Bois de Vincennes from monday last till wednesday at night he arrived at the Louvre, where there was an Italian comedy ready for him, ordered by the duke of Anjou his brother; and to morrow they will dance a great ballet, where all the nobility and greatest ladies of the court will be most gallantly accommodated.

It's reported, that the cardinal's nephew, mr. de Mancini, is to marry one of the dutchesss of Esquillon's nieces, to get the government of Havre de Grace from the said dutchesss.

Those that have the profit of the gabelles and taxes here offer at present to the king, to furnish 60 vessels at sea with men, money, and all manner of provision, against the English, for to have the commerce free. The duke of Vendosme, as admiral of the sea, demanded the command of the said ships, but was refused. The duke of Guise's forces for the most part are gone to Provence and Dauphiné.

Our councils here are in disorder, the high price and that of the finances being altered, six intendants being turned out, and six more being put in their places, as mr. de Menerdeau shall think fit; but all is to get monies from the poor men. Hence parted last wednesday mr. marquis de Castelnau, Mouiffères, with many other officers of the army, to conduct a convoy of provision and ammunition for Quesnoy; and have orders to fight the enemies, in case they might appear.

Our king this day is gone a hunting towards Bois de Bologne, which is all known at present to,

Sir, your most humble servant.

A letter to Bordeaux the French ambassador in England.

Paris, January 16, 1655. [N. S.]

A. D. 1654
V. xxii. p. 175.

BY the letters which we have received from Rome by an express we hear, that his holiness was relapsed, and given over by the whole school of physicians. By the next post we shall certainly hear of his death.

Mr. le commandeur of Valence, who some years since did serve the king in an embassy to Rome, hath been desired by his eminence to take that honour upon him again; and that he should have his arrears paid him, if he would undertake it. The present affairs do require the presence of an able man there. Whereupon he hath undertaken it, only demanding half a year's advance, being a religious, and consequently without a patrimony, which doth highly offend his eminence, who rattled him soundly for it. And every body doth blame the said commandeur for it, it being just, that when able persons are commanded to go upon an embassy, which they are commanded by the supreme power, to do it without hanging after money. You see, that you are condemned, if you agree to these maxims. I know not whether your negotiation will end with the festivals, and whether the conclusion thereof will cause you to return sooner than the indisposition of my lord your father, who is extreme ill, and not without danger, though something better. He hath received all the sacraments of the curate of St. Gervais. He could not give him the holy sacrament, till he had put his mistress out of the house, which at last he consented unto, and then the curate, being sure that the young damsel was gone out of the house, performed all the functions, to the great content of your whole family.

Another letter to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Paris, January 16, 1655. [N. S.]

V. xxii. p. 183.

I DO hold you to be more at the extremity of your embassy, than your father is of his life, although men say otherwise of him; and I do believe, that if you do determine with this letter of the court, which is sent you by this post, that you will be here time enough to find your father in a reasonable good condition. You will think that I am always in my humour, and a contrary opinion to all others; but remember that I am one that speaketh without any guile or colour; and I will tell you more, that the chiefest ministers here told me yesterday, that they were not altogether satisfied with you, by reason you did act a little too much after your mode, and not according to the precise orders of the court. I made answer, that you could see more clearly upon the place, than those that were at a distance. They replied, that you were to obey blind-fold the orders that were sent you.

The Spanish ambassador to secretary Thurloe.

SEÑOR MIO,

V. xxi. p. 456.

ANTES de ayer a medio dia me entregò la parte de Pedro Ricault un papel de milord protector, en que S. A. se sirve de dezirme entre otras cosas que desea una respuesta mia breve y positiva sobre su pret^{on} y p^a poderla dar a S. A. en esta conformidad necesito de que se me entregue una copia de la cedula que dicen tener del Rey mi señor, y que se me muestre el original en que los Richauts fundan el derecho de lo que pretenden para que visto y reconocido su contenido pueda representar a S. A. lo que en la materia se me ofreciere, y assi sup^{co} a V. S. de quenta dello a S. A. de mi parte para que se sirva de mandar se me muestre la cedula referida de su mag^d y que se me de copia della, dios g^{te} a V. S. muchos años como deseo Londres 1^o de enero. 1654.

Muy servidor, de V. S.

DON ALONSO DE CARDENAS.

OLIVER

OLIVER P.

THESE are to will and require you forthwith to receive into your charge the body A. D. 1654.
 of Rowland Thomas, and to keep him in safe and close custody within our Tower
 of London, till you shall receive farther order in that behalf, he being committed for high V.xxii p.252.
 treason. Hereof you are not to fail, and for so doing this shall be your warrant. Given
 at Whitehall this 8th of Jan. 1654.

To our trusty and well-beloved
 John Barkstead esq; lieutenant
 of our Tower of London.

*A letter to secretary Thurloe, from one of the persons who translated his letters of
 intelligence.*

January 8, 1654.

SIR,

PRESENTLY the French letters came to me, and I can find nothing more in them than what V.xxi. p.460.
 you have inclosed, only that the French embassador here gives great hopes of a
 speedy and good conclusion to this negotiation. So in his last he writ to the secretary of
 state count Brienne. Many in Paris rejoice at the death of the pope, in hopes of a
 better for France. Trouble there will be about it; which is all here at this time by,

Sir, your humble servant.

From col. Bampfild.

MY LORD,

THE letter, which mr. Mason informes me you have written to mee, is not yet come V.xxii. p.59;
 to my hands, and is the only one that has miscarried; however I shall ad this to
 the rest, and since I hope you will thinke it tyme but impertinently worne out in many
 professions to gaine your beleiefe, that I love and desire to serve you, which I had rather
 you should finde by my actions than persuasions, I shall not use any further preambles, but
 tell your lordship, that here has been lately a plot discovered, many imprisoned, more sent for
 from all parts, much armes and ammunition taken, some parts of it brought to light,
 and more I believe in the protector's knowledge then he yet reveales. This might have
 bred a commotion, but by all I can yet understand of it, it would not have done more
 good, though it had not beene discovered before it had broaken out. I much dout this is
 an end of the great designe, which has soe much subdued the kinge to sir Edward Hyde's
 fence. 'Tis not fitt for mee to write all things relating to it; or if it were, 'tis too large
 for a letter. It has done much hurte by the bringing these people nearer to an agreement
 then they were; will be, I feare, the destruction of many, and a discouragement to future
 and more hopefull designments. Lord * * fort is come into the governor of Inver-
 ness, and Middleton, as I am informed, desires to capitulate; but of this I am not certain.
 And here is an end of all mr. Chan's well-conducted designes; and for the present must be
 a suspension of others. Yet if you have been averse to what I have proposed in reference
 to your owne particular from your * * * * *
 of the event of these projects, you may nowe governe yourselfe according to the present
 state of things. I am not come, I confess, to that degree of wisdom even in my owne
 opinion, to presume to give your lordship my advice, upon whose judgement, preferring it
 farr beyond my owne, I both have and shall depend; yet I thinke it will be no arrogance to
 tell you, that I had rather adventure to give you my advice, whilst it is seasonable, and
 your disease curable, than consolation, when it is remediless. I am confident having caused
 a freind of mine to discourse at a distance with a great one here concerning you at a dis-
 tance, you may yett make your peace, and enjoy your estate, which I fear will be more
 difficulte, if not impossible hereafter. Divers of your owne countrymen, who have sub-
 mitted, lay all the blame of the highlands rising upon you, and endeavour to bring you
 into as much prejudice as they can. Wherefore I could hartily wish as a person very much
 concerned in all the good or ill that can befall you, that you would take your opportunity
 whilst you thinke you may have it, of being as easy as the sad condition of things will ad-
 mitt, though you cannot be for the present soe well as * * * * * might * *
 That of Cicero to Marcellus upon the like occasion, is, I thinke, as applicable to your pre-
 sent

A. D. 1654. fent condition, . . . *si sapientis sit carere patria, duri non desiderare, etsi republica non possit frui, stultum est nolle privata.* To obey inevitable necessity is agreeable both to the laws of God and nature; and I thinke noe man was ever soe great a Stoick in virtue, that would not at least soe far helpe himselfe, that when he coulde noe longer help the publique by his activity, that he would refuse to * * his owne passively, that he might decently grive the publick misferys at home, without sufferringe contempt and too much want abroad. And yet that needs not paradventure be your parte; neither you may happily yet act the same part you desire, only change the scene. If you have particular reasons, which I cannot conjecture, to dislike this cource, I confesse, my mentioning of it may be imprudent, but I hope you will not thinke it * *, for my own particular doe verry much submitt my owne proceedings to your judgement. And therefore very well may what is your intyer interest, which I shall attend when I receave your commands as carefully as if it were for my selfe. Beleive me by all that I can possibly see your beinge 20 26 236, would 91 139 13 19 138 156 108 62 36, for 190, than where 188 67 70 31 156. And I thinke I could make it demonstrable to you, if I were with you but half an hour. If you write to me, if your lady directs your letter to mrs. Moray, to whome I thinke her ladyshipp has an address, she will send them me, though I thinke directed to mr. William Smith at mrs. Pacy's house over against the Tennis Court in Crutched Fryers will come very safe and more speedily, by reason that mrs Moray is at this tyme 3 or 4 miles off at her brother Newton's. I shall request your lordshipp to present my humble service to your lady, and to beleive that I am with great truth,

London, Jan. 8,
[1654.]

My lord,
your lordshipp's most humble
and most faithfull servant.

The superscription,
For mr. Alexander Lindsay at Paris.

The examination of Oliver Williams.

Oliver Williams, gunsmith, dwelling in Tower-street London, saith as followeth.

V.xxii. p.220.

THAT in May 1648, when the rebellion was in Kent, mr. — Fryer ship-chandler, living at a corner house in or near Tower-street, did between the hours of eleven and twelve at night lade three boats with arms and ammunition at Butolph's wharf near London-bridge, which said arms and ammunition the said Oliver Williams affirms could not be worth less than five hundred pounds. The said Oliver Williams farther affirms, that out of his affection to the parliament, he having intelligence of the said Fryer's intention of sending arms to the enemy, he the said Oliver Williams lay under a stall near the said Fryer's house, and watched three nights together, and the third night saw the said arms carried out of the said Fryer's house at the hour abovesaid; and that the servants of the said Fryer carried a dark lanthorn along with them, and when they perceived any to come near them, they darkened their light. Farther the said Oliver Williams saith, that he the said Oliver Williams following the said arms and ammunition, to see whither they were carried, one of the servants of mr. Fryer stepped back with the lanthorn to see who it was that followed them: whereupon the said Williams saith, that he was inforced to counterfeit himself drunk, and accordingly mumbled, and reeled up and down, yet followed them to Buttolph's wharf, where he saw them put into boats, and then immediately departed, and gave information to a captain of a troop of horse, who at that time quartered with his troop in Gracechurch-street, who forthwith seized the arms and ammunition, before the boats could get off. Whereupon the said captain demanding whose arms and ammunition they were (the servants being upon the approach of the soldiers run away) the said Fryer never owned the said arms, &c. though he the said Oliver Williams can attest upon oath, that he saw the said arms, &c. carried by mr. Fryer's servants out of his said house. Oliver Williams farther saith, that the said mr. — Fryer shut up great part of his shop for the space of near three years; and swore, that he the said Fryer would not open it again, till either the late king come to town, or his son should be crowned king; nevertheless about a year since the said shop as formerly hath been open.

The said Oliver Williams doth not render this account of Fryer upon any account of envy, but out of duty and affection to his highness and the present government; humbly conceiving, that though the act for indemnity may have pardoned the said Fryer for past offences, yet thought it necessary to declare how great and inveterate an enemy the said Fryer was, and still remains.

Witness to this information,
E. DENDY.

Jan. 8, 1654.

OLIVER WILLIAMS.

The examination of George Isley, servant to the widow Hood, at Ashby de la Zouch, in the county of Leicester, taken Jan. 8, 1654.

[Taken by secretary Thurloe.]

SAITH, that he hath gone as a carrier and servant to the said widow, between London and Ashby de la Zouch, with horses since midsummer last, and being at the Axe in Aldermanbury, where he lodges, upon the 25th of December last, being christmas day, one mr. Rowland Thomas, whom he hath known 5 or 6 years, the said Rowland Thomas being for some years together at sir Robert Shirley's at Staunton, within two miles of Ashby, where this examine used often to go with letters, which this examine's master did bring from London, did come to the Axe aforesaid about 8 or 9 a clock on christmas day aforesaid in the morning, when they were unloading, and caused a small trunk to be delivered to him, to be carried to mr. Lovett's in Staunton aforesaid, a tenant to sir Robert Shirley, which the examine did accordingly, and had 5s. 11d. paid to him for the carriage, by a young man, who came with the said Rowland Thomas; but doth not know what was in the trunk. And he farther saith, that at the same time there were brought into the inn other large and heavy trunks, some whereof came in a coach, which the said Rowland Thomas, being in the yard, took care of, and helped to take them out of the coach, and caused them to be delivered to the other carriers then there; viz. two were delivered to Thomas Lowe then carrier of Burton, who was paid for the carriage by the young man aforesaid; who came with mr. Thomas, and another trunk was delivered to Thomas Allen, a carrier of or near Ashburn, and was paid as aforesaid. And this examine saith, that the said Rowland Thomas gave half a dozen of beer to this examine's porter, and as much to the other porters, for helping to pack the trunks aforesaid. And the examine farther saith, that he went two days journey and a half with the said other carriers, who carried the trunks, viz. as far as Stony-Stratford; and by the way he remembers he said to the other carriers, that he thought the young man, who delivered them these trunks, had stolen some merchandise, or otherwise he could not imagine where he should have these trunks, he being but a poor man of no means, when he lived at sir Robert Shirley's. And this examine being asked, what was in these trunks, he saith he knows not. And the said Rowland Thomas being produced before the said examine upon his examination, he saith, that the person so shewn unto him is the very man, who caused the said trunks to be sent as aforesaid by him and the said other carriers.

A. D. 1654.

V. xxii p. 232.

The mark of GEORGE [] ISLEY.

Thomas Allen, of Ashburn in the Peak in the county of Derby, aged about 35 years, and servant to John Miller, carrier between London and Ashburn aforesaid, being examined Jan. 8, 1654. saith as followeth.

HE saith, that he lodging at the sign of the Castle in Woodstreet, there came to him on saturday before christmas day last to the said inn a gentleman, whose name is Rowland Thomas, as this examine was afterwards informed by George Isley, being the same person that was shewed to this examine at the time of his examination, and treated with him about carrying of two trunks for him to Mr. Browne's of Hungry Bentley in the county of Derby, which the examine undertook, so they were not above 100 weight a piece; and promised to keep a mare of purpose; and on monday following, being christmas day last, the same person, with another young man, whom he took to be the gentleman's servant, being the same person now produced, and calling himself by the name of Henry Thomas, came to this examine at the Castle aforesaid, bringing with them two trunks, whereof one was in a coach, and the other was brought by one Bull, a porter belonging to Thomas Lowe, carrier to Burton upon Trent; and spake with this examine about the carriage of the said trunk, but the examine undertook the carriage of that only, which was brought by the porter, which weighed about 100 weight and 3 quarters; for which he received 2d. per pound, the whole amounting in money to 27s. but the other being very heavy, as the examine was informed (for he saw it not) he refused to accept thereof. Whereupon the said gentleman said, that he would get him two trunks 100 weight a piece against this examine's next coming, the party telling the examine, that the things contained in the said trunks were bedding. Whereupon the coach went away from the said inn with the said trunk, but whither it was carried he knows not. And he farther saith, that before the bringing of

V. xxii p. 242

A. D. 1654. the said trunk to the Castle aforesaid, on the said christmas day, the said gentleman, with the said other person, came to this examine at the said inn, and moved the examine to send the mare to the place where the lading was, to take the same up there; the reason alledged for the same by the said gentleman being, to avoid search by the excise-men. And that the place, where the mare was to be sent, was also named by the gentleman, but what the said place was he doth not now certainly remember, but believes the same to be Lime-street in London; but the examine refused to send his mare, as was desired, and thereupon the said trunks were brought to him as aforesaid, one of which he took as aforesaid, to be delivered to the said mr. Browne, to whose wife the same was accordingly delivered on saturday the 30th of December, at Hungry Bentley aforesaid, mr. Browne himself being not at home, as the examine was there told. And together with these trunks he delivered her a letter, directed to her husband, at the same time, by the same gentleman, at the said inn as aforesaid. He farther saith, that he knew not what was in the said trunk at his receiving of it, being delivered to him corded up; but he was afterwards informed by soldiers, as he supposes them, who went along with this examine, that the same were full of arms. He farther saith, that the said gentleman, at delivering of the letter, gave the examine a flagon of beer; and the other young man that was with him, and who paid this examine his carriage money, borrowed then of the said gentleman about 3s. to make up the money. He knows not whither the said trunk brought in the coach as aforesaid was carried, after the examine had refused the carriage thereof, the said young man having on at that time a grey coat.

Taken before us,
WILLIAM JESSOP,
MA. FIRBANCK.

The mark of
THOMAS [] ALLEN.

Ann Cunllife, aged about 19 years, servant to mr. Edmund Custis, of Lime-street London, merchant, being examined Jan. 8, 1654. saith as followeth.

V.xxii.p.238. SHE saith, that she hath been servant to her said master at his house in Lime-street about 12 weeks; and that on the 25th day of December last, being christmas day, there came to the door of her master's said house a coach, which often came into the yard of the said house, being in the forenoon of the same day; and at the same time a gentleman was there inquiring for her the examine's master, who being asked by the examine, what his name was, he gave his name to be Thomas, or Thomlyns, or some such like name; adding, that he lived at the sign of the Black Boy in Fleet-street; and that he presently after spake with her master, and staid a little time with him; but what discourse there was between them she knoweth not. And she saith, the gentleman now shewed to her, and who, as she is informed, is called Rowland Thomas, is the same person, as she thinks, but she cannot speak it with certainty. She farther saith, that she knoweth not what persons or things came in the said coach, nor who nor what was carried out in it at it's going away, she going suddenly about her business, being cook-maid, to provide her mistress's dinner, there being to dine with him that day some friends and kinsmen of her master's, viz. Joseph Custis and captain Bodewell, who dined with him accordingly, and no other stranger, as she thinks. She says farther, that there are no lodgers in her master's house, only her mistress's sister, Johanna Herringe, and two servants, viz. Anna Gale and John Custis, who is also kinsman to her said master.

This examination taken before us,
WILLIAM JESSOP,
MA. FIRBANCK.

ANN CUNLLIFE.

Thomas Bull of Cripplegate parish London porter, aged 40 years or thereabouts, being examined Jan. 8. 1654. saith as followeth.

V.xxii.p.234. HE saith, that he is usually employed as porter for Thomas Lowe, carrier of Burton upon Trent in the county of Stafford, who lies at the Ax in Aldermanbury; and that upon the 24th day of December last at night there came a young man to the said inn the Ax, and treating with the said Thomas Lowe about some carriage, he after spake to the examine to meet him next morning by or before 8 of the clock at the Black Boy over-against St. Dunstan's church in Fleet-street, whither coming accordingly, he found that the

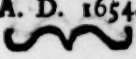
party was abroad, and in his return meeting in Fleet-street with the said young man and a gentleman, whom he thought to be his master, they bad him return to the Ax, whither after a little stay both the said persons came; and after their speaking with Thomas Lowe, the said gentleman bid the examinee to go into Lime-street to fetch some trunks, which Thomas Lowe was to carry; and accordingly going, the said gentleman went by him in a coach, and coming to Lime-street, the coach went into a yard, wherein are divers new brick buildings, having also a great gate at the entrance, and (with it the examinee) the said gate and the wicket thereof being shut immediately after, and repairing to a house in the said yard being the furthestmost on their right hand thereof, and the house of one mr. Custis a merchant, as this examinee believes, the examinee did help to load out of the said house unto the said coach a great trunk, weighing, as the examinee believes, 400 weight, and did also take upon his own back another trunk of near 200 weight, which he brought to the said inn, whither the coach presently after brought the said great trunk, the gentleman coming along with it in the coach; and the great trunk being too heavy for the carrier's horses, the same was suddenly after carried back to the said house in Lime-street, as this examinee remembers, the gentleman's servant accompanying it; and being returned thence the said great trunk was taken out of the coach there, and another put into the coach of a lighter burthen; the examinee also taking a fourth upon his back weighing near 200 weight; which together with the 2d trunk so put into the coach was also brought to the said inn the Ax. And he further saith, that his master Thomas Lowe being not able to carry all the said trunks, that which came in the coach the second time, and one of them that was carried by the examinee, were carried the one in the coach, the other by this examinee, to Thomas Allen carrier for Ashburn in the Peak in the county of Derby, lying at the Castle in Woodstreet, who undertook the carriage of one of them, but that in the coach he undertook not, and therefore the coach carried it back again to the place from whence it was brought, as this examinee believes. And he further saith, that the said gentleman and his servant, who employed this examinee as aforesaid, he never saw him before to his knowledge; but that since heard his name was Rowland Thomas, but from whence he heard it he doth not now remember. And he saith, that the gentleman now produced before this examinee, and called by the name of Rowland Thomas, is the said gentleman, and another now produced before this examinee at the time of his examination, and called by the name of Henry Thomas, is the other, whom he supposed to be the gentleman's servant, as he doth think, but he cannot say it with certainty. And he further saith, that when the said trunks were a loading at Lime-street aforesaid, the master of the house, mr. Custis, as he believes, being of a pretty tall stature, and fat, and of a black hair, was present most of the time. The coachman that carried this trunk, he saith he knows not, but hopes he may find him out, and will use his best endeavours in that behalf.

The examination taken before me,
W. JESSOP.

Per mee, THO. BULL.

The examination of Thomas Lowe carrier betwixt London and Burton upon Trent in the county of Stafford, being of Burton aforesaid, and aged sixty years or thereabouts, the same being taken Jan. 8, 1654.

THE examinee saith, that he lodging at the sign of the Ax in Aldermanbury, on the 25th day of December last, being Christmas-day, several trunks were brought unto the said inn by a young man, whose name he knows not, whereof there was delivered to the examinee two trunks and two boxes, to be delivered at Stokeley park in Staffordshire at mr. Walter Vernon's house, for which the said young man paid the carriage, amounting to 1d. per pound, to about 37s. they weighing very near 400 weight; but at the time, when he received the said trunk and boxes, he knew not any thing of the contents thereof. And he farther saith, that the said two trunks and boxes were according to his agreement sent by his porter on saturday the 30th of December last from Burton upon Trent to Stokeley park aforesaid, where being unladen, as this examinee was informed by his servant and porter, the same were there opened by some soldiers that went along with his servant, and found to be full of arms. Thereupon this examinee's two horses brought them back to Burton, whence a neighbour of this examinee called John Hewitt carried them, as he is informed, to Coventry on the monday following. The same person, as this examinee believes, delivered at the same time another little trunk to George Isley, carried for Ashby de la Zouch in the county of Derby, and another great trunk brought into the same inn in a coach, was offered by the same person to be carried by the examinee, but the same being very heavy, and estimated at about 400 weight, this examinee refused

A. D. 1654.  refused to accept thereof, being too great a draught for any of his horses; whereupon the said person withed the plague of God upon this examine, and so caused the said trunk to be put into the coach again, and carried out of that inn; and whither it was carried afterwards, this examine knows not, nor hath never heard. And he farther saith, that the same persons he conceives delivered another of the same trunks to Thomas Allen carrier to Ashburn in the county of Derby, who lodges at the Castle in Woodstreet, to be carried to mr. Browne of Bently in Derbyshire, as Thomas Allen informed this examine; and paid for the carriage of it 2 d. per pound. And the said person told this examine, that since he missed of carriage at the Ax, he would carry the same to the said Thomas Allen. And he farther saith, that the person who delivered the said trunks and boxes to this examine, had not been formerly seen by this examine to his knowledge, nor did he know his name, nor did he now call to mind his features, the examine being then full of business, and minding that more than persons; but he was a handsome young man, in a black genteel habit, and hath heard from George Isley aforementioned, that his surname is Thomas. And in testimony of the truth thereof he hath thereunto set his hand.

Taken before us,
WILLIAM JESSOP,
MA. FIRBANCK.

The mark of
Thomas [] Lowe.

Nouvelles de Paris du 19 Jan. [N. S.] escrites a mr. Stoupe. [1654.]

V. xii. p. 267. **L'**Accommodement de monfr. le duc d'Orleans avec le cour est fait, & l'on bientot a Paris.

Le courier de Lyon n'est pas encore venu, de sorte que je n'ay pas reçu par cette voye mes nouvelles de Suisse. Mais il est arrivé hier au soir un courier extraordinaire, que l'ambassadeur du roy, qui est en Suisse, envoie par lequel il mande, que la dernier assemblée des Cantons s'est terminée, sans qu'ils ayent pu s'accorder, & qu'ils en sont desjà venus aux mains.

L'armée de Zurich a assiégé Rapeswil, qui est a Suits par eau & par terre. Celle de Berne alloit assieger Melinigen.

Les Cantons catholiques attendent de l'argent de Rome, & des troupes de Milan.

Le duc de Modene part demain, mal satisfait, a ce que l'on dit, de ce que l'on ne luy a pas voulu donner le generalat de l'armée d'Italie.

Mr. de Beringuan premier ecuyer du roy part dans deux jours pour aller a Turin traiter du mariage du roy avec l'œur de duc de Savoye.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg, to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

V. xii. p. 513. **I**HAVE received your highnesse's gracious letter of the 22d December, with the inclosed to the English companie here presideinge, most humbly and faithfully acknowledging your highnesse's goodness in owneinge and acceptinge my poore services, much to my encouragement. Accordinge to your highnesse's command I yesterday published the letter to the companie, useinge my utmost endeavours, that it might have its desired effect; but the disaffected partie (whom nothinge will satisfie but domination) beinge farre more numerous then the other, combined together to evade your highnesse's commands in the most specious manner they could; and findinge that your highnesse only expected and commanded, that as a companie they would appart from among them such as beinge influenct by your highnesse's enemies had acted thenceforth to the dishonour of your highnesse and the disturbance of the companie's peace, they caught thereat, as not soe influenct, and shortly and unanimously (knowinge their owne guilt) resolved not to knowe of any such men amonge them, beinge your highnesse had not personated any. To put them from that hould, I told them, that besides my owne observation, I had beene duly informed, who were the men, that had beene chiefly instrumentall in raisinge and fomentinge their present divisions, and nominated them to be Francis Townley, Clement Clerke, and Edward Holford, the leadinge men of the faction, offeringe to prove them such, not willinge to nominate more, though I might have done it, to see how they would declare themselves upon these few first, which I quickly found was to side with them and stand for them to the utmost; which indeed they did, those three animating them in speciall manner unto it, even to the tramplinge of their own order under foote, which commands, that members of the companie shall withdraw themselves out of their assemblies,

assemblies, when they are required by the deputie, especially being charged, as these men were, by me. But the disaffected partie would in noe wise admitt of it, nor the charged persons submit to it, though it was but in order, that the assembly might consult your highnesse's commands in their absence, the ordinary course the company takes in all their owne affaires. And in the close they told me plainly, that if I would accuse any of them for malignants, and command them in your highnesse's name, as resident, to depart the assembly, they would obey; otherwise not; which I had done, it beinge easy to prove many of them such, and to be guilty of very pernicious practices, but that I gather from this your highnesse's letter to them, that it was your pleasure, first to try their obedience as a companie, for the detecting and ejecting of their owne offending members. I am sorie to see them thus stubbornly sett themselves against your highnesse's commands; but they have formed their partie soe strong, and gained soe many abettors, being now here three for one of the well affected, as that they are resolved not to suffer any of their confederates to be put from among them by the authority of the companie, which is now sole in their hands; and soe confident is Townley, their chiefe leader, that he boasted not longe since openly in court, that none but God Almighty could remove him. As the case stands at present, I must humbly acknowledge to your highnesse, that beinge wearied out with the perverse behaviour of these disaffected men, who indeed really act from the old roote of malignancie, though they will not owne it, because some of them have speciously pretended otherwise to carry on their designs, I should have accompted it a happinesse to have beene quit of them, but now that I perceive it's your highnesse's pleasure I doe continue deputie to the companie, thereby to enable me the better to discharge the trust wherewith your highnes hath been pleased to honour me. They are arrived to this height, and have soe fortified themselves, that noe power of the company can touch them. It will please your highnes to extend your owne authority for the speedy and effectuall curbinge of their insolencies, that soe I may be enabled to preserve and maintaine your highnesse's honour and interest among strangers, and give due protection, as your highnesse's servant, to the well affected among them, who are indeed become their scorne, as I myselfe should shortly have beene for owneinge them in their duties, if your highnes had not pleased to preserve me by your gracious approbation of my proceedings. Some underhande encouragement these men must needes have from their partie in the companie at London, which makes them most daringly bold; but if it shall please your highnes to commande me, as resident, to exclude from sittinge in court soe many as I shall find upon due prooffe to have acted to the dishonour of your highnesse and the disturbance of the companie's peace, I humbly conceive it will be a meanes to recover the companie to a peaceable condition, and prevent further trouble to your highnesse, it beinge the way, which the former councill of state tooke with some of them, whose since their restoringe have studied all possible meanes of revenge. This way (if your highnes approve of it) will make the well affected the major part in the government; untill which tyme I humbly conceive it will be impossible to restore and preserve peace in the companie; the disaffected havinge soe resolvedly combined as one man to stand it out to the uttermost; and soe they profess openly, presumeinge much upon their number, and that their pretence to doe all for the preservation of their liberties will beare them out with your highnes, which yet I am sure were never infringed by me in the least, but on the contrary recovered, and strenuously preserved, though this partie have, since they laid their designe to weary me from among them, taken liberty frequently to breake their own orders, and goe contrary to their charter, to serve their ends, as I shall prove.

I lately sent mr. secretary Thurloe some few propofals for the present settlinge of the company here in peace, and to secure it to them for the future, which I humbly conceive your highnes will approve of, and the company at London alsoe, at least such as are not engaged with these disaffected men. The well affected here in the company beinge revived with your highnesse's grace and favour unto them, doe most humbly and thankfully acknowledge it by me, at present, in regard the post hastens. I heare the other partie are labouringe for hands to a remonstrance to your highnesse, nor doubtinge but to palliate all their foule proceedings with faire pretences. However they, or any for them, may represent things to your highnesse, whatever I have here at present or formerly made bold to signifie to your highnes or mr. secretary Thurloe, shall be proved the truth to a fillable. I hope and humbly beg your highnesse will pardon the length of this accompt, and graciously please to let me receive your further pleasure in this busines, in regard I have respited the settlinge of the government upon the expiration of the last mart or quarter, to prevent it's beinge put into these men's hands, untill I shall receive your highnesse's commands therein. Prayinge the Almighty to preserve your highnesse, and succede his worke in your hands for the good of his people, I crave leave in dutie to subscribe my selfe,

Hamburgh, Jan. 9, 1654.

Your highnesse's most humble
and faithfull servant,
RICHARD BRADSHAW.

William Sheffield and Thomas Cockran to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxxiv.
P. 377.

WE having this opportunity, judged it our duty to give your highnes this account : there hath of late beene in our countrey a great concourse of those people called quakers, 200 at least, in Swannington. They had quarters taken up from the adjacent townes : they came from London, Bristoll, Cambridge, and Yorke. Those from London and Cambridge sayd they expected 2000. They have a printer with them, and fixe are constantly writing : they are very insolent, disturbing ministers in time of exercise on the Lord's-day ; and they have lett droppe words of ill favour amongst the people frequently, as that if the people will have theire priests, they must shortly maintaine them with clubs ; and that the people should see a change, and something to doe betwixt this and the spring. These things doe much amuse the people ; some saying they would not be soe daring, if they had not good backers ; others saying they believe the parliament will take order about them, if your highnes will give leave. By this meanes profane persons are confirmed in theire atheisme ; cavaliers encouraged and heightend in theire expectations ; godly people discontented, that the government should be soe much a sleep as to suffer such in their insolency, which is falsely called a liberty, for as they manage it, it is not only disturbing but distructive to the civill and christian libertyes of others. These things looke with an ill face in the account of all, and not without much reflection uppon the government ; and generally they strike at those ministers, who are most paynfull, and stand firme in the consciences of the people. To this wee may adde, that some horse-courfers of late have bought up many good horses, and tell theire friends privately, that they know where to have 3 l. and 5 l. profitt in a horse without carrying them into a fayre ; and a servant to a Papish within a mile told some, that hee beleevd the army would have worke betwixt this and the spring. Wee shall add noe more, but pray that the Lord would give your highnes understanding of the times to know what England hath to doe ; that hee who dwelt in the bush be your rereward, which is the duty of

Your highnes most humble servants,

Dalby in Leicestershire,
Jan. 9, 1654.

WILLIAM SHEFFIELD,
THOMAS COCKRAM.

Notes to examine col. Vernon by.

V. xxii. p. 250.
Richard Bowyer
exam. who went
with him, the
way he went,
and the places
and persons he
visited in his
passage.

THAT on the 16th or 17th of December he went out of town with his servant R. B. by the way of Oxford and Worcesterhire, and on friday the 22d arrived at Bendsworth, the habitation of B. Broughton, his intimate.

Captain Watson,
whether he did
not hear of this,
and the vicar's
wife of the words

That in the week following he was at Adderly, and asked the vicar of ———'s wife, whether she would bid him welcome, when he came to make a garrison there, and expressed the time, &c.

Ex. G. B.

That on thursday the 28th of Decem. there was a meeting at Drangshall, or Bramshall, near Uttoxiter at a private alehouse, where he and several others were present, his intimates, that the passages there, and whither they went that night.

Ex. G. B. and
R. B. and others
hereafter.

That on saturday the 30th of Decem. he and W. V. and E. B. and others were together at Sudbury, at the alehouse called Scott's, at which time came in two several messengers from the houses of W. V. and E. B. declaring the discovery, where several pretended conjectures were made discourfes as their thoughts of their business ; but it was observed, that he was very blank upon

Ex. himself
whither he went
and on what oc-
casion, and G. B.
of this.

That on sunday at morning he went out without a man on horseback through bye-ways and fields, without path, and came not in till three a clock monday morning, when there was a great fire made, and continued in his chamber, as is conceived to burn what he thought fit.

Ex. capt. Watson.

That on monday night, being seized on at Burton, W. V. was demanded by captain Watson, how he conceived, and for whom those ——— were sent ; who said, he believed for E. V. and produced his man as a witness, that on friday precedent E. V. should command him to acquaint his master, that ——— would come down on saturday, and that

that they should be secured and kept for him, which man is since conveyed out of the way. A. D. 1654.

That forthwith R. Bowyer was sent post to London, and on Friday arrived there, and called at Mr. Seiele's, where Mr. Thomas lay (an intimate of E. V. and now in custody) and it is conjectured, that he came to give notice, or lay matters aside, that might be searched into; but this is conjecture on circumstances only. R. Bowyer.

That G. B. speaking of these things, it was asked, whether V. C. were not the like friends as formerly; who said, that they fell out about, as he believed, who should be the greater. Ex. G. Bowyer.

That he was a c. under col. F. † in the first war, and a col. at Pontefract in the second war, is apparent. † Fretchwell.

That he was in the intrigue after, is clear by his taking Captain West a prisoner.

Ex. capt. West.

Q. By what names, and whether he lay in town, before the act of oblivion?

G. B.

Q. What persons of quality he received and entertained at several times immediately after the fight?

Q. What pensions he received from other lords?

Q. What offer he had at Lea, or what employment?

Mem. To see the letters, and to know whose hand it is, and what the exam. already taken to discover the falsities.

The charge against Rowland Thomas, Jan. 1654.

V. xxii. p. 52.

HE together with Major Norwood, one Custis, a merchant in Lime-street, and several others of the late king's party, had frequent meetings together in and about London, and possessed themselves of great stores of arms and ammunition, which they agreed to send and dispose privately into several counties, as Leicestershire, Worcestershire, Staffordshire, Derbyshire, &c.

About the same time that Mr. Gerrard and Vowel were tried and executed for their high treason, for levying war &c. and plotting to destroy his late highness &c.

In pursuance thereof, in December 1654, several great chests and trunks full of arms and ammunition, viz. pistols, carbines and bullets, were conveyed and carried by this Rowland Thomas in person, under the name of wines, &c. to several inns in and about London, viz. the Ax in Aldermanbury, and the Castle inn in Wood-street, the White Hart inn in the parish of St. Giles's in the Fields, by coaches and otherwise, where the same were delivered to the several carriers of Burton upon Trent, Ashby de la Zouch, Ashborne, Bromsgrove, with letters to several persons in the countries to receive them, particularly to Mr. Walter Vernon, of Stokeley Park in Staffordshire, Mr. Edward Browne, of Hungry Bentley in Derbyshire, Mr. Lovet in Staunton, tenant to Sir Robert Shirley,

Dr. Yates's letter, who seized the trunks sent to Stokeley Lodge, dated Dec. 31, 1654. and sent to Capt. Edge at St. James's.

by them kept till they should be sent for. Mr. Thomas Lowe, the carrier of Burton, refusing to carry one of the trunks at that time, being 400 weight, and too heavy for his horses, Thomas wished the plague of God on him, and caused the trunks to be put into the coach again, and carried out of the inn.

Thomas Lowe exam.

This Rowland Thomas went by several names; sometimes he called himself Thomlyns. He paid the several carriers at the several inns for the carriage of those trunks, &c. some of which were brought from the said merchant's house in Lime-street, and Thomas likewise paid all other charges to porters, &c.

Major Norwood. The several carriers and porters belonging to them.

Major Norwood (his confederate) that confessed upon his examination, that he, by this Rowland Thomas's direction, did receive 250 l. for buying the commodities mentioned in a paper, whom he calls by the name of Thomlyns, but saith, the said money was brought to him by a porter, whom he knows not, nor from what place he brought it, only he signed a receipt to Thomlyns, which he delivered to the porter.

Major Norwood.

Richard

Richard Bower of Sudbury in the county of Derby, servant to sir Edward Vernon of Sudbury aforesaid knight, aged about 21 years, being examined this 9th day of January 1654. saith as followeth, viz.

A. D. 1654.
V.xxii.p.259.

HE saith, that he is a servant to the said sir Edward Vernon, and so hath been for above the space of three years; and that he came from his said master's house in Sudbury aforesaid on last tuesday morning the second of January instant, and came to London about twelve of the clock on friday last; the occasion of his coming up being only to prosecute a suit in chancery betwixt his master and mr. Henry Vernon his master's son, which suit stands now referred to the master of the Rolls, who advised the parties to come up before the term, he expressing, that he hoped to have a report ready about the end of Christmas now passed. And he saith, that on the 31st day of December last being at his master's house in Sudbury, he heard from some soldiers, who came thither to search for arms, that some trunks filled with arms had been brought from London to mr. Walter Vernon's house, the examine's master's brother at Stokeley Park, and to mr. Browne's at Bently, which arms, as he also heard, were taken; and before that he never heard of any arms designed to either of the said places, nor knows of any arms sent or intended to his said master's house, nor to any other place whatsoever, otherwise than as is before expressed; nor doth he know of any design whatsoever, either in his said master, or in any other person whatsoever, to do any thing whatsoever, that may disturb the publick peace; nor hath he bought or received direction from his said master or any other, to buy arms, or to do any other thing relating to the publick, but merely to attend his master's private affairs.

This examination taken by me,
W. JESSOP.

RICHARD BOWER.

Richard Bower being farther examined the same day, saith, That he knows the person of a gentleman, whom he hath heard called mr. Thomas, and whom, as he verily thinks, he saw yesterday at Whitehall at his passing by the examine; and that the first time he saw the said mr. Thomas, was almost twelve months ago at sir Robert Shirley's house at Staunton in the county of Leicestershire, and hath since seen him several times in London, and particularly presently after Michaelmas term last past he saw the said mr. Thomas once or twice (but twice he thinks) at the shop of one mr. Seele a stationer over-against St. Dunstan's church in Fleet-street, in company with Edward Vernon second son of the examine's said master. And he hath also seen the said mr. Thomas coming out of the lodging of the said mr. Edward Vernon at the house of one Ireland a taylor in White Fryers London, being in time about a fortnight before Christmas; and he remembers not that he saw the said mr. Vernon and mr. Thomas together at any other time than as is here before-mentioned; but what discourse passed betwixt them at such times, or what might be the occasion of their coming together, he knows not. And he saith, that on the 19th of December last the examine went out of London with the said mr. Edward Vernon towards Sudbury, whither they came on the 23d day, mr. William Fitzherbert of Norbury four miles from Sudbury, going along with the said mr. Vernon, and no other person besides but the examine.

Col. Barkstead, lieutenant of the Tower, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

V.xxii.p.256.

IN the pockett of a paire of breeches the last night brought from mr. Norwood the enclosed paper was found. I suppose the night bagg mentioned in it may be the bagg, in which the monie was, which I received of mr. Croone; but in that it names the person that brought it to him, as alsoe taking notice of the familiarity of it, I thought it my dutie to give this trouble. Not more, but that I am,

Tower London, Jan. 9,
1654.

Sir, your affectionate freind

and humble servant,

JOHN BARKSTEAD.

NOBLE MAJOR,

IHAVE received by mr. Edward Brotherton a night cap sealed up, which shal be safe laid up for your use.

December 26,
1654.

Your servant

HENRY CROONE.

George Illsle, servant to widdo Hood carier, delivered the trunke to mr. Lovitt, livinge at Stanton in Lestershire.

His name that delivered the trunke to the carier is Rowland Thomas.

An

An additional instruction for his highness's council in Scotland.

YOU or any five or more of you are authorised, and have hereby power to grant indemnity to such particular persons in the Highlands, as you shall see cause, and shall judge to be for the publick advantage, against all suits, troubles, or molestations, for thefts or robberies committed during the time of the late wars. A. D. 1654.
V.xxii.p.263.

Passed by his highness in the council,

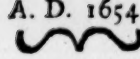
January 9, 1654.

HENRY SCOBELL clerk of the council.

Extract out of the resolutions of the lords the states of Holland.

Wednesday January 20, 1655. [N. S.]

THE lord van Beverningh ambassador extraordinary for the state to his highness the lord protector of the republick of England, Scotland, and Ireland, appearing in the assembly of their noble and great mightinesses, represented to them, in what manner the lords deputies of the province of Friesland, on the 7th of this month, had been pleased to deliver, in his absence, a certain proposition in writing in the assembly of their high mightinesses; whereby he observed, that his good name was implicitly injured, and the fidelity of his duty called into question, concerning what has happened in England, about the known act of seclusion, touching the employment of the lord prince of Orange, especially by a certain clause, which, among others, was inserted in the said proposition, whereby it was doubted, whether the said act of seclusion did derive from the own motion of the said lord protector. Whereupon the said lord van Beverningh declared unto their noble and great mightinesses, that, altho' in the absence of the lord Nieupoort, who had been employed with him in the said extraordinary embassy, and concerning the said subject, he might perhaps not be intitled to make, in that respect, particular reports to their noble and great mightinesses, and that he had so much deference for the said lord Nieupoort, that, if it were not for the said emergency, he would have stayd for the said purpose till after his arrival; yet because of the importance and odiousness of the said proposition, which also seemed to comprehend a tacit accusation charged on other members, voters, or ministers of this assembly, he could not avoid to lay before their noble and great mightinesses the whole affair, circumstantially and faithfully. And having made hereupon an exact report thereof, he did confirm the same with a solemn declaration, that neither he, for his own person, nor any body else, as far as he knew, whether in or out of the government and service of this province, either directly or indirectly, has made or given any overture, communication, occasion or advice, whereby or from whence the said lord protector was animated, put into mind, or instigated, to make any such, or the like proposal of seclusion of the said lord prince of Orange, nor any thing like it, neither by consulting their high mightinesses in general, nor their noble mightinesses in particular; but that on the contrary the aforesaid whole affair, as far as he knew, did only and solely proceed from the own motives of his said highnesses the lord protector, or his council, and was unexpectedly urged in and insisted upon in the last days of the known negotiations in England; so that notwithstanding all possible and utmost endeavours that were done and used with the utmost diligence and application, and several repeated conferences, his said highness would not possibly be diverted from his pretension and demand. The said lord van Beverningh offered himself to corroborate and confirm his said declaration, in a full assembly of their noble and great mightinesses, not only upon the oath he had taken upon his appearance therein, but also by a solemn assertion and corporal oath, with an humble request, for the better exculpation of himself, and of all the members, and voters, and ministers of this assembly to be admitted thereunto, as also that he might have declared unto him the intention and orders of their noble and great mightinesses, according to which he ought to regulate himself in this affair in relation to the other provinces and otherwise, to the satisfaction of this assembly. Whereupon deliberation being had, their noble and great mightinesses have again thanked the said lords van Beverningh and Nieupoort in general, and every one of them in particular, as they are thanked hereby jointly and separately for and on account of their good, faithful, and prudent conduct, which, with a singular and particular vigilance, they have used and shewn in and about what has happened concerning the said affair of seclusion. And although, in consequence thereunto, their noble and great mightinesses are fully persuaded of the fidelity and sincerity of the said lords van Beverningh and Nieupoort, and are intirely and in every respect satisfied therewith, and therefore think it needless, in their respect, to demand any oath from the said lord van Beverningh, yet it is resolved, that the said gentleman at

A. D. 1654.  his request, shall be admitted to make the said oath, for the further exculpation of himself, as also of all the members, voters, and ministers of this assembly, but chiefly for the entire conviction of the said lords the deputies of Friesland, and of all others that might have still any scruples left on the aforesaid account. As to the further request of the said lord van Beverningh, it has been thought fit and resolved, hereby to desire the lords deputies of their noble and great mightinesses, which are charged by the resolution of the 19th of last month, with the like subject, to make this a joint affair to demand conferences thereupon, and to enter upon the same with all expedition, and to make their report thereof without delay, in order that the same being heard, such further resolutions thereupon may be taken as according to the exigency of the matter shall be thought needfull. After the resumption of the said resolution, the said lord van Beverningh did declare upon solemn and corporal oath, that the contents of his declaration, in this resolution contained, were true in every respect,

As true as God Almighty should help him.

Henry Rose of Bromsgrove in the county of Worcester carrier, aged forty years or thereabouts, being examined January 10, 1654. saith as followeth, viz.

V.xxii.p.281.

HE saith, that he is carrier betwixt Bromsgrove aforesaid and the parts thereabouts and London, and so hath been for the space of three years and upwards; and that coming to London on tuesday the 19th of December last he found in his warehouse at the White-hart in St. Giles's in the Fields (being received thither by Robert Woodin the examine's porter before the examine's coming up to London) two chests of deal, one of them being about four foot long, and the other somewhat shorter, and both near a foot and a half broad, weighing one of them near 200 weight, the other somewhat less; also one having bound up with cords, weighing about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a hundred, one horse trunk of about three foot long, weighing not full $\frac{1}{2}$ a hundred, and one little deal box weighing about eight or ten pound weight, which parcels before-mentioned were directed by papers nailed on them to sir Henry Littleton's house at Hagley in the county of Worcester; and that on wednesday the 20th of December last he laded the same on his waggon, and on saturday the 30th of December last he delivered them all at the said house of sir Henry Littleton, in presence of the butler of the said sir Henry, and received from one Bowles, as he takes it, or a person bearing such or a like name, (being steward or some other officer of the said sir Henry Littleton) 27 s. for his carriage thereof; but who brought the said parcels to his, this examine's, warehouse, or who sent them thither, or what was contained therein, this examine knows not, only he was wished at his coming away by one Lloyd, sometime steward to the old lady Littleton (the place of which Lloyd's dwelling he knows not) to take care of the said little box, and afterwards heard at Hagley, that there was in it a gown for the said lady. And besides the particulars above-mentioned he hath not, during the said space of his being a carrier, carried any other goods at any other time to or for the said sir Henry Littleton, or to his said house. And he farther saith, that on the said 19th of December he found also in his warehouse in manner as aforesaid, two great hampers, weighing together five hundred pound and a half, or thereabouts, being directed to sir John Packington at his house in Westwood in Worcestershire, which he laded on the said 20th of December, and left them at the said sir John Packington's house friday the 29th of December last, being delivered to the said sir John's butler, and for the carriage he this examine received 27 s. from the steward of the said sir John, whose name he knows not; but who brought the said hampers to the examine's warehouse, or from whom they were sent thither, or what was contained in them, he knows not, other than that one of them being opened in his the examine's presence at Westwood house aforesaid in the cellar thereof, he saw some bottles in the top thereof; but what was in the other, or the bottom of that he saw opened, he knows not. And at any other time he hath not carried any goods to the said house, or for any belonging to the same, to his knowledge. And he saith, that the same carriage he also carried a rundlet of wine for one mr. Davis, a little box for sir Edmund Barret, two firkins of soap for one mr. Porter, and several other small parcels for private persons in those parts, but nothing that was bulky, other than what is before-mentioned. And he farther saith, that being at sir Henry Littleton's house aforesaid he saw the said Henry passing by; but he was informed, that sir John Packington that day the examine came to Westwood was at dinner at esquire Danner's house a few miles from his house. And he farther saith, that he hath not, for a long time, to his remembrance, carried any lading for any other gentlemen thereabouts, other than now; and than some small parcels of goods of no bulk.

This examination taken by me,
W. JESSOP.

The mark of
HENRY [] ROSE.
Henry

Henry Cooke of Bromsgrove in the county of Worcester carrier, aged forty four years, or thereabouts, being examined January 10, 1654, saith as followeth.

HE saith that he is carrier betwixt Bromsgrove aforesaid and London, and so hath been for above twenty years, lodging at his coming to London at the White-hart at St. Giles's in the Fields. And that about a month ago, being the last time he was in London before this, he received at the said inn two deal chests fastned with cross bars of the same stuff, a trunk, a small box, and some fruit trees, to be carried to the house of sir Henry Littleton at Hagley in the said county of Worcester, and for the use of the said sir Henry, the said two chests being about four foot long, and three broad, weighing about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a hundred, and the said little box weighing about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a hundred, which particulars were brought in a cart to the said inn by one mr. Lloyd, who formerly belonged to the old lady Littleton, and now lives, as he the examinee thinks, about London, and lately about Covent Garden; but where his dwelling is, he knows not, nor doth he know the carman who carried the same. And he farther saith, that all the particulars he the examinee delivered at Hagley house aforesaid some four days before Christmas last to the said sir Henry's steward, whose name is mr. Bowles, sir Henry himself being then at home; and received from the said steward 25s. for the carriage thereof. But what was contained in the said parcels he the examinee knows not, nor hath heard. And other goods than the particulars above-mentioned he hath not, for the space of about $\frac{1}{2}$ a year, carried to the said sir Henry his house, or for the use of him, or any relation to him, to his knowledge. And he farther saith, that the same carriage he laded for sir John Packington, to be delivered at his house at Westwood in Worcestershire, a rundlet of wine, a pair of tables, and a small box of sugar (as he takes it) all weighing about a hundred and a half. And besides those goods he hath not carried any goods for sir John Packington and his family this half year now past, to his remembrance, nor hath he of late carried any goods of bulk to any gentleman thereabouts for this half year and more, as he remembers.

This examination taken by me,
W. JESSOP.

The mark of
HENRY [] COOKE.

A. D. 1654.
V.xxii. p.285.

General Monck to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Received your letter dated the 6th of January, and I am glad to heare the newes of the timely discovery of the designs in England, and that there is noe further of them. I am confident heere will bee noe danger. V.xxii. p.307.

Concerning the examining of the prisoners, the trueth is, wee find out more daily of the matter, whereon to examin them; soe that we shall now uppon their examinations, which shal be speedily taken, have more to examen them in, then at their committall wee had. I shall desire you to move his highness, that advocat Whalley may bee speeded downe, for wee shall have much busines for one, and there is none heere. The earle of Seafort hath this day articted with me for the comeing in of himselfe and his partie; soe that none is now left to joyne with Middleton but Glengary and Mac Clowde. Middleton hath sent to capitulat. I doubt wee shall not agree. I would not nor shall not agree to a cessation of armes in the mean tyme, nor shall I make any conclusion with him, without receiving his highness's commands. I thinke fit to send you this * inclosed letter (sent to one who is come in uppon articles) that you may see Middleton's resolution even in this tyme, when hee desires a treaty. I remaine,

* See Middleton's letter of December 23, 1654.

Dalkeith, January 11,
1654.

Sir, your most affectionat servant,

GEORGE MONCK.

Mr. Augier to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

I HAVE not yett received my nephew's occurrences of the 1st instant, which he is wont to send me by the post, which parts from Paris saturday nights. I heare from other hands, that the pope is dead, and that the contestations are very great att Rome about a new election, cardinall of Retz endeavouring for the Spaniards, which have granted him one hundred thousand crownes yearely. V.xxii. p.303.

Mr.

A. D. 1654. Mr. de Neufville, ambaffador of France, will have by this poft the newes of the death of Mr. de Bourdeaux his father. I remaine alwaies,

Right honourable,

The 11th of Jan. 1654. [N. S.]

your honour's moft humble
and obedient fervant.

Mr. Daniel Watfon to capt. Geo. Palmer.

SIR,

Vol. xxxiv. p.
493.

THOMAS Browne acquainteinge mee with his order for apprehenfion of Bird, mr. Walter Vernon's man, whome not beinge (as hee informes mee) to be founde, his earneft defire to mee is to give you a fhort relation of what I heard from him in reference to captain Vernon, which is briefly thus: comeinge to mr. Walter Vernon at the Starre at Burton, after fome interlocutory difcourfe, hee acquainted me with the fufpition he had of captain Vernon's fendinge the armes (then feised) to his houfe. I demanded what grounds he had for it; hee answered, that his man Birde was at Sudbury on fridaye laft, where captain Vernon commanded him to remember his fervice to his mafter, and tell him, that he had trunckes comeinge downe from London by this carrier, and that they would come to his houfe, and defire him to keepe them fafe, untill hee called or fent for them; which the faid Bird, beeing then prefent, and beeing called, affirmed to be true. Some other questions and answers then paff, which my prefent haft will not give leave to particularize: this is the fubftance. I care not further to trouble you, but to affure you, that I am,

Your frind to ferve you,

Sceney, Jan. 11, 1654.

DANIELL WATSON.

A letter of intelligence.

SIR,

V. xxii. p. 315.

LAST poft I was foe furprized in time, that I could nott then falute you, and I believe fome fuch obftruction mett with you laft weeke, that I had nothinge from you. I am in earneft expectation of hearinge from England, and much wonder nothinge comes. Pray God your friend bee in London, and well. I defire you to informe your felfe and me as foone as you can. We have been all here for two or three pofts in the like wonder, untill funday laft brought us letters, though opened. You will find mr. Mews and major Straughan att Amfterdam ere this in their feverall wayes for Scotland, butt this muft be a feeret. We expect returnes of one or both att the begininge of March, and then meafures will be taken what to doe. You may be fure you knowe as much as I, and have me a true friend to ferve you. The duke of Newburgh's lady is brought a bed of a daughter, and laft faterday a gentleman from the duke was fent to his majeftie to greete him with that knowledge; and yefterday fir Gilbert Talbott was fent to congratulate, though mr. Belinge 3 days before was fent about other bufines you may gueffe at. The duke of Glofter beinge fomewhat indisposed att Antwerpe, dr. Friezar is fent to him by the kinge. Tom Howard is here from the princeffe royal. Sir Henry Ducie hath beene here fom time, which I forgot to tell you of, where lies a ftory concerninge mrs. Barlo, *fed tace*. You may knowe more hereafter. Shee is here with her yonge heire. The kinge of Denmarke we heare will have Hamburgh as much at his devotion as the Sweede Breme. I believe Lubeck and other places muft expect a little tutoring too, thofe 2 kings, Holdftein, Lunenburgh, and other princes beinge joyned in the defigne, and fome fay the emperor confentinge, and that this was hatched att the dyett, to bringe downe the pride and riches of thefe places, that would neither contribute to our mafter nor Cæfar: foe who laments them? not I. We expect ftirrs in England. *Verbum fat. &c.* Sir, I am

Your moft faithfull fervant,

Collen, Jan. 12, 1655. [N. S.]

J. M.

4

Nieuport,

Nieuport, *the Dutch ambassador in England, to the states general.*

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

MY lords, since my last of the $\frac{1}{12}$ instant, the parliament has been still busy in the fore and afternoons with the resumption of the articles and incidents concerning the government, as also touching the manner of delivering to his highness, the lord protector, those resolutions that are ingrossed. Some were of opinion, that the same ought to be carried to Whitehall by a deputation; others, that his highness ought to be desired, for that purpose, to come to the house, or in a chamber thereabouts, but this point is reserved to be the last. There have been also divers debates concerning the title of the said act, when it was at last resolved, that the same should be called, an act declaring and establishing the government of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, with the dominions belonging thereunto, and that the same should be published in the name of his highness the lord protector and the parliament of the said commonwealth, without any preamble or introduction. Further there have been prepared sundry separate acts, and among the rest, one, whereby it is ordered, that out of the finances and publick income, besides the two hundred thousand pounds per annum, for the maintenance of justice, and the court of the lord protector payable to the order of his highness and the council, there shall further be paid for the keeping of the fleet, armies, and other charges of the state, ten hundred thousand pounds; and that the tax of sixty thousand pounds per month shall be employed for the payment of the debts and former arrears, and of the troops which now are to be disbanded. The day before yesterday on a motion, whether the said act, before the same should pass, ought not to be previously communicated to his highness the lord protector, in a conference, as a projected resolution, it was agreed by a majority of votes, that this should not be done, but that the same, being passed, should only be delivered. There is arrived here a letter from general Pen, dated the 8th instant, new style, being at that time 35 Dutch miles south of the Lizard Point. Yesterday I was credibly informed, that great preparations and diligence are made to fit out, with all expedition, to sea a new squadron of 60 ships under Disbrowe and vice-admiral Lawson, among which the great Naseby and other new built ships are reckoned. It is said, that some dissatisfied officers of the army in Scotland intended to separate themselves from the other troops, and march into England; but that general Monck has given such orders in time, that the chief of them are taken into custody. And major general Overton, who was to have had the chief command, is coming hither in the frigate called Basinge. They are still here upon the search, and daily more persons are discovered, which are said to be guilty of the last plot. The ambassador extraordinary of Genoa had last saturday his solemn and publick audience in the great hall of Whitehall, and was entertained till Sunday night; he has rendered me thanks by a gentleman, for sending him the coach at the time of his reception, and offered me his sincere friendship and good correspondence; whereupon I made yesterday my compliments at his house at Chelsea. The ambassador of France had been there the day before; he received me with all the civilities, which your high mightinesses ambassadors receive of any other publick ministers. He finds his dwelling-house so inconvenient, as he told me, that he is resolved next week to come to another house in town; he is an able man, that has travelled much, and is skilled in several languages.

A. D. 1654.
V. xxii. p. 345.

Wherewith, &c.

High and mighty lords,

Westminster, Jan. 22, 1655. [N. S.]

(sign'd)

WILLIAM NIEUPOORT.

Nieuport to the greffier Ruyfch.

MY LORD,

LAST night I was informed, that after the breaking up of the parliament, so many lords of the council met, by order of his highness the lord protector, that the memorials I have presented, together with the proofs (touching some ships belonging to the inhabitants of the united Netherlands, which were taken by some privateers, and carried into a small harbour of Cornwall about 200 hundred miles from hence) were read, and the same being taken into consideration, it was resolved, that the said ships and goods should be discharged, as their high mightinesses will be pleased to observe, out of the order of the council hereunto annexed, which I took out this morning. The said privateers commit their exorbitances with the more boldness in those far distant places, because there are no officers or magistrates, that have any great authority, which hinders those poor people, that

V. xxii. p. 349.

A. D. 1654. they cannot acquaint their high mightinesses ministers here at London, with their complaints. Wherefore, I think, that it would be proper, in order to be the better informed, from time to time, of what happens in the West of England and in the Channel, that at Falmouth, Plymouth, Portsmouth, and Dover respectively, some able persons that understand both languages should be appointed, who in the name of their high mightinesses should be desired and authorised, to assist the inhabitants of the united Netherlands, that should happen to be carried to, or arrive at the said harbours, or at any other places adjacent to the same, and to hinder, as much as possible, that no prejudice and injury might be done to them; and further, that the said persons should send timely notice of all such occurrences to the ministers of their high mightinesses here, of what ships arrive at or sail from the said places, and of all that may happen there. I am told, that there is at Falmouth a merchant called Methuys, and at Plymouth one mr. William Jones, whose father had many years ago that office, as also that at Portsmouth lives one mr. Wheeler, and at Dover a merchant called de Hase, which persons, I believe, might be persuaded to it, enjoying for their troubles a yearly salary of 25 or 30 pounds sterling.

On monday last a further answer was sent to the lord de Neufville, wherewith these gentlemen here thought his excellency would be satisfied; but I am since informed, that there are some few words in the same, which he declares he could not admit, and I have heard from himself in general terms, that the said answer gave him no satisfaction; yet it is believed, that an expedient will be found out, in case France is sincerely inclined to it. Mr. Thurloe has sent to me this evening the chief act, whereby the privateers, of whom I have complained, are ordered to appear here before the council: he ordered me to be ask'd, if I would leave the execution thereof to his direction, or if I would appoint another person for that purpose. I thanked him for the trouble he had taken, and told him, that I would communicate the said act to the agents of the interessed, and send him word. This I thought proper to do, since I am informed, that the masters of the ships have made under hand, as to the proprietors of the ladings, another declaration in favour of the privateers, and quite otherwise than what I first heard, and represented in my memorial.

Wherewith, &c.

My lord, &c.

Westminster, Jan. 22, 1655. [N. S.]

(Sign'd)

WILLIAM NIEUPOORT.

Boreel, the Dutch ambassador at Paris, to the states general.

—HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

V.xxii. p.351. **M**Y lords, the affair of Herentals and Courtray causes a great deal of discourse here, and they wish that the season of the year might be a little further advanced, in order to procure powerful materials for the spiriting up of disorders. They talk secretly, that a great many other places intend to follow the same example.

A strong convoy is preparing here to be sent under the command of monsr. de Chastellau Mauvesiere to Quesnoy, to provide and stock anew the said town and the garrison, that lays there, with all necessaries, since they think it a convenient and advantageous place, to keep always a door open for an irruption into the heart of the Spanish provinces. Provisions are made likewise, to maintain the fort called Barleau on the river Lys, lately taken from the Spaniards by count Broglio, governor of la Basse, since from thence and from the French garrisons and the incursions of the same, great harm may be done in Flanders. The said count is arrived here at court with intent to propose and to concert the most suitable means and expedients, which may be serviceable and undertaken for that purpose.

According to the newest accounts from Brabant, the prince of Condé was still at Brussels, and the baron de Bouteville is expected at London, to communicate and to concert the joint designs against France. They have here no great opinion, that the depending differences between France and England will be accommodated by an agreement. Monfr. Bordeaux, intendant of the finances of France, and father of monfr. de Neufville the ambassador of the king at London, died here lately, and the said ambassador, it is said, has for this reason, obtained leave to come here from thence, with an intent of this court, as some will have, to break intirely off the negotiations there; others say, that a person of greater distinction will be sent thither from here. They are quite uneasy here to bear with any more prejudices and affronts.

The mediators of a peace between France and Spain, viz. the pope's nuncio and the ambassador of Venice, that are here at Paris and at Madrid, have been busy again to bring about their offers of mediation; but something or other is always wanting, so that a good effect

effect thereof is as much doubted as ever; in the mean while both parties declare, that they are intirely inclined for peace. Here is news from Spain, that the English fleet under admiral Blake being arrived in the bay of Cadiz, and afterwards at Gibraltar, an agreement was there made with them by the commissaries from the court of Spain, that the said English fleet should go into Spanish service, receiving for the same per month. The said fleet arrived in the bay of Naples, eight days after the departure of the duke of Guise, whom (having stayed a little while to refresh themselves) they have followed immediately till about Leghorn and the island of Elva, where, according to the freshest advice from Genoa, the English fleet did still continue, without giving any great jealousy to the grand duke of Tuscany, against whom the English shew some discontent.

Since the English fleet under admiral Pen was seen at Rosco, steering their course to the west, there is no nearer advice, but only that they said in England, that the design was to land in Conquet, not far from Brest. I have with great pains and troubles obtained an order of the council of the king, whereby the captains d'Ayne and Hautfuille, who took the ship called the Hope van Floor, commanded by Peter Crynsfen alias the Grand Turk, are condemned to make restitution (being wrongfully seized) of the said ship with all her appurtenances, merchandises, and goods laden therein, as also to pay costs, damages, and interest. Which last clause I have as yet not been able to obtain: I will do my best to bring the same into execution, and will now go on further to give orders to prosecute the reparation criminal and civil against the said captains, for the villainous and cruel murder, committed on the person of the said Peter Crynsfen, and will spare no trouble for that purpose, since justice demands an example to be made for such a barbarous crime.

Wherewith, &c.

high and mighty lords, &c.

Paris, Jan. 22, 1655. [N. S.]

(sign'd)

BOREEL.

Bordeaux, the French *embassador* in England, to Chanut the French *embassador* in Holland.

January $\frac{22}{17}$, 165 $\frac{4}{5}$.

MY LORD,

THE news of this day will advise you, that the end of my negotiation doth approach. V.xxii.p.339: Yesterday I asked audience to take my leave of the protector; and as soon as it is given me, I will take the way of France. It shall not be without giving you advice by the next ordinary, and without adding most humble thanks for the honour of your correspondence. It doth seem, to judge by appearances, that my lord protector ought not to let me go for want of expressing that in the article, which his commissioners do agree to be inserted; but without doubt he is driven by some particular consideration, which is unknown to me, to maintain a division with France. God grant, that he may prove a bad merchant, and that he may repent hereafter of not accepting of the good affections of the king, and that he may be forced to make as many advances, as he hath received on my part. I must of necessity comfort myself with this imagination, that I have used all my endeavours, care, and little industry, to execute the orders of the court. However I shall stand in need of such favourable witnesses and judges, as yourself and mr. Picot. He hath great reason to begin by you to render me those good offices, and to believe, that if you be once persuaded, you will easily persuade many others. I have cause to hope, that he will prosper in his design, after so many testimonies, which I have received of your love. The parliament have not yet finished their deliberations upon the government. Their time is almost expired, and unless they make haste in their act, they will not have twenty days left for the protector to consider of it.

Here hath been a plot discovered, which was to have been, as is said, a general rising in the counties. Many are imprisoned about it, and many arms are said to be found in gentlemen's house in the counties. Some commotion there hath been in the army of Scotland, and major general Overton and some officers of the anabaptist party are imprisoned. Yet notwithstanding their imprisonment there hath not happened any rising in their behalf. Here is no news of general Pen. It is still said, he is gone for America. Some speak of the island St. Laurence. As for Blake, I see by the letters from our court, that he is gone as far as Naples, and hath shewn very much discontent to have mist of the duke of Guise.

Examination

Examination of Walter Vernon, esq.

Walter Vernon of Stokely Park in the county of Stafford, esq; aged sixty five years or thereabouts, being examined January 12, 1654. saith as followeth.

A. D. 1654.
V.xxii. p.317.

HE saith, that going from his house at Stokely Park on Sunday morning the 30th of December last to his brother Sir Edward Vernon's house at Sudbury in the county of Derby, where he was to meet Mr. Edward Browne of Bentley in the same county, in order to a farther journey to Sir Thomas Milward about a difference betwixt the said Mr. Browne and his brother William, which was referred to the examine and Mr. Robert Milward as arbitrators, and to Sir Thomas Milward as umpire; and staying there that day till dinner time, in expectation of one Mr. Gilbert an attorney, with whom the examine had business; and dining with the said Sir Edward Vernon, together with the said Mr. Edward Browne, he heard at Sudbury aforesaid by a messenger from Stokely in the afternoon of that day, that some trunks had been that day brought to his house at Stokely Park, which had been opened there by some soldiers, who came with the carrier that brought them; but what was found in them, he heard not. And thereupon the examine relinquishing his purpose of going on to Sir Thomas Milward's, repaired that night to his house, and received notice by his children, that some trunks and boxes had been brought into the court of his the examine's house the same day, and there broke open by some soldiers; and that there were in them guns, pairs of pistols, some carbines, and one very fine pair of pistols; and that those, who brought the said trunks and boxes, presently carried them away; but he saith he saw none of the said trunks or boxes, nor was he before hand advised of any intention in any person whatsoever, to send such trunks or boxes to his the examine's house, or to any other place; nor doth he know from whom they were sent, nor upon what occasion. And that the next morning being required by an officer (by virtue of his highness's warrant) to accompany him to Burton upon Trent, he went accordingly, and at Burton he heard from Cornet Thomlinson of a letter directed to him the examine, signed by one Green, that accompanied these trunks; but who that Green or other person that sent the said letter is, he knows not, nor can he suppose or imagine. And he farther saith, that he knows not, nor hath been informed of any design whatsoever in any person to make any publick disturbance, nor for what purpose the said arms were intended.

This examination taken by me,
W. JESSON.

WALTER VERNON.

The letter to Mr. Vernon.

December 24, 1654.

SIR,

V.xxii.p.503.

THough a stranger to you, at the request of a friend of yours, I have made bold to send by Lowe, the carrier of Burton, some things, which he desires you would receive, until he come and demand them. I believe before this come to your hands, you have been advised thereof by the party himself, who I am, and withal shall be,

Sir, your most humble servant,

P. GREENE.

Edmund Browne of Hungry Bentley in the county of Derby gent. aged forty five years or thereabouts, being examined this 12th day of January 1654. saith as followeth, viz.

V.xxii.p.335.

HE saith, that he went from his house at Bentley on Friday the 29th of December last in the afternoon to the house of Sir Edward Vernon at Sudbury in the county of Derby three miles from the examine's house, where he met with Mr. Walter Vernon the same day, about a matter in difference betwixt this examine and his brother William Browne, which was referred to Mr. Walter Vernon and Mr. Robert Milward as arbitrators, and Sir Thomas Milward as umpire; and not finding Mr. Walter Vernon there that Friday (according to his appointment) the examine staid that night at Sir Edward Vernon's house, and the next morning, being Saturday the 30th of December last, the said Mr. Walter Vernon came also to Sir Edward Vernon's house, they both intending that day to have gone to the said Sir Thomas Milward's house, being about three miles distance from Sudbury; but

but mr. Vernon being staid there in expectation of one mr. Gilbert an attorney till past noon; the examine and the said mr. Walter Vernon dined that day with sir Edward Vernon, there dining with them also the two sons of sir Edward, viz. mr. Edward and mr. John Vernon, and his daughters, and no other strangers, as he remembers; and being in the afternoon informed by the said mr. Vernon, that he could not proceed to sir Thomas Milward's that day, the examine repaired the same evening to his house at Hungry Bently, hearing mr. Walter Vernon resolved to stay at Sudbury till monday morning then following; and on that day to meet the examine at sir Thomas Milward's. And when the examine came to his own house, as aforesaid, he found soldiers in his house, and in his hall a trunk standing, which, as he was informed by the soldiers, was directed to this examine, being brought from London by one Allen of Ashburn, which trunk, he was also informed, had been opened by the soldiers at his this examine's house; and that several pistols and holsters were found therein; but he saw not the pistols or holsters (other than one of them, as he was informed, in a soldier's hand) the trunk being made up again ere this examine's coming home. And this examine enquiring of his wife, if any letter were brought with the said trunk, his wife delivered him one, which she said she received of the carrier; which letter this examine finding open, as he remembers, he looked therein, and found it directed to the examine, and signed T. Taylor, and forthwith read it to the soldiers, and then delivered it them. And the examine farther saith, that he knows not who the said T. Taylor, or other person that signed the said letter, is; nor had he any advice beforehand from any person whatsoever of any such trunk, or of any arms that were to be sent, nor on what occasion; nor doth he know the hand, that writ the said letters; nor doth he know, or hath been informed, of any design in any person to make any publick distractions, other than some flying reports, which he hath heard talked of, since this business fell out, to the occasion whereof he is altogether a stranger; nor can he imagine, who the subscriber of the said letter should be. And he farther saith, that he knoweth not any such person as Rowland Thomas, nor that he ever spoke with any person of that name to his knowledge; nor hath heard of him, otherwise than as one Allen a carrier sent word to the examine by his the examine's servant at St. Alban's, on his the examine's coming up, that he had challenged a man for sending down the said trunk, whose name is Thomas.

This examination taken by me,
W. JESSOP.

EDMUND BROWNE.

A paper of the Spanish ambassador's secretary to the states general.

Lectum die 23 Januarii 1655. [N. S].

LE foubigné secretaire de l'ambassade d'Espagne ayant appris la plainte, qui a esté V.xxii.p.363. fait a messieurs les estats generaux de quelques desordres commis sur la frontiere la Mairie de Boisduduc par quelques troupes du seigneur le prince de Condé logées a Weert, & en ayant donné part a son altesse le seren^{me} archiduc, quoy qu'il luy plut faire depescher les ordres necessaires pour empescher semblables excès a l'advenir, & procurer la reparation du domage, que pourroient avoir souffert en ce rencontre les subjects de cest estat, en suite de la cognoissance, qu'il a des intentions du roy son maistre entierement portées a entretenir non seulement toute bonne correspondance avec LL. SS. mais aussi a leur donner tout contentement possible, il a receu commandement de sa dit Alt. ser^{me} d'asseurer luy avoit causé ceste action estant si contraire aux bonnes volontes de sa majeste & aux siennes de leur declarer, que S. A. en ayant fait faire plainte au dit seigneur prince de Condé, de qui les troupes dependoient, il en auroit de mesme tesmoigné un particulier ressentiment, & que S. A. le fera entendre a LL. SS. (ains qu'elle se fait par le moyen du dit secretaire) le parfait desir, qu'il avoit de maintenir avec elles toute bonne amitie & intelligence, & que pour leur en fournir une entiere assurance estoit pres a donner aux interesses toute la satisfaction, qui seroit juste, du damage receu par des dites troupes, aux quelles il avoit ordonné fort exactement de s'abstenir de tous excès & violences contre les subjects de LL. SS. Il se trouve de plus obligé sur les nouveaux ordres, qu'il a receu de sa dite Altesse serenissime de prier & requier tres instamment messieurs les estats generaux, de vouloir prendre une finale resolution sur la reiterée priere, qu'il a fait a LL. SS. de designer quelque autre ville plus commode que celle de Dort, pour la residence de la chambre mipartie: en quoy il espere, que LL. SS. auront le deu esgard a l'intercession de sa dite Altesse. Fait a la Haye ce 23 de Janvier, 1655, signé

J. RICHARD.

A paper of the French ambassador to the states general.

Lectum die Jan. 23.

A. D. 1654.
V. xxii. p. 355.

Monsieur de Wyckel député de la province de Frise a l'assemblée de messieurs les estats generaux des provinces unies, & president en semaine, se souviendra, s'il luy plait, pour en faire rapport a la dite assemblée, que l'ambassadeur de France luy a dit, qu'ayant receu commendement du roy son maistre de presenter a mes dits sieurs les estats generaux une lettre de sa majesté en recommandation des interets de l'ordre des chevaliers de saint Jean de Jerusalem, il l'avoit mise entre les mains de monsieur le president lors en semaine il y a plus d'un mois, & luy avoit representé :

Que le roy estoit porté a favoriser la justice des demandes du dit ordre, par la merite de son institut ; par la vertu & la bonne conduite des chevaliers, qui le composent ; par l'obligation, qu'il y a suivant l'exemple de ses predecesseurs, comme premier roy tres chrestien, & comme l'ancien & veritable amy de messieurs les estats generaux.

Qu'il y avoit de quoy s'estonner, qu'un ordre saintement estably, & subsistant genereusement pour la deffense du nom chrestien contre les infidelles, qui en cette consideration a receu des biens, des graces, & des privileges de tous les princes & republicues, qui professent le christianisme, & particulierement dans ces provinces, soit depouillé sans cause dans ce seul estat, & depuis peu d'années, des biens, qu'il y a possédez par la pieté & liberalité du siecle passé ; & en la possession des quels il avoit esté maintenu par les mesmes loix & confederations, qui ont formé cette republicque.

Que cest ordre ayant establi son siege dans un avantage au milieu de la mer Mediteranée, pour arrester la licence & les courses des Mahometans, s'est porté avec telle charité envers les subjects des princes chrestiens, que tous se sont louez de la protection & de l'assistance, qu'ils ont trouvée dans Malte ; & comme ceux de ces provinces par l'occasions de leurs navigations y ont abordé plus souvent, & quelquefois chassés par les corsaires Turcs, il n'y a point de nation, qui ait plus d'interet a la conservation de l'ordre, & plus d'obligation a recognoistre l'hospitalité qu'il professe.

Il est vray, que tous les princes chrestiens doivent la protection a cette ordre, mais aucun n'a tant de subject de maintenir leurs droits, que le roy, non seulement a cause de son titre, qui le rend le premier deffenseur de la cause chrestienne, mais encore pourceque la France a plus consacré de ses biens & de sa noblesse a cette sainte institution ; & sa majesté croit aussy, que son entremise par recommandation sera fort considerée par messieurs les estats generaux, comme venant d'un amy certain, & qui regarde autant, en la priere qui leur fait, leur honneur & la gloire de leur estat, que l'interet de la religion de Malte.

Pour ce qu'il n'est pas de legere consequence pour la reputation de ces provinces, que cet ordre offensé par un long deni de justice publié par toute la chrestienté, ou il est respandu, que les interets de quelque peu de particuliers, qui se sont appropriez les biens de cette religion, ayant engagé tout l'estat a faire une justice publique, & n'ayant pu estre assubjettis a l'autorité de leurs propres loix.

Il est aussy du devoir d'un prince sage & d'un bon amy, de prevenir par ses avis & par ses requisitions les inconvenients, qui pourroient naistre de tels differents, & qui s'elevent souvent de causes fort legeres ; & pour ces raisons le dit ambassadeur avoit estimé, que la recommandation du roy produiroit quelque effect conforme a l'importance du subject, & aux bonnes intentions, avec les quelles il s'y est porté ; & bien qu'il n'ont point esté donné de réponse a la lettre de sa majesté, la prudence des mess. les estats generaux l'ayant du differer pour de bonnes cause, il espere que mon dit sieur le president remettant cette affaire a la memoire de la compagnie, elle y ferera consideration. Signé

CHANUT.

A la Haye, Jan. 23, 1655. [N. S.]

An intercepted letter of Conway to the earl of Northumberland.

Paris, January 23, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

V. xxii. p. 359.

THIS is the worst time of the year to write any news in. Here is not any thing worth your knowledge. The king of France is blond or lightish hair'd ; the duke of Anjou is black. The king is silent and of few words ; the duke is merry, and still talking. The king loveth hunting extremely ; the duke cares not to ride, but loves very much dancing and the company of women, whom he doth touse and kifs.

The duke of Guise hath sold all that he has in this world, but Guise, which is worth A. D. 1654. five thousand pounds per ann. and moſt for this unfortunate voyage to Naples. I believe the death of the pope will trouble no body but madam Olympia, unleſs they would make cardinal de Retz pope, which they will not do.

Charles Littleton, of Arley, in the county of Stafford, gent. aged 24 years, or thereabouts, examined Jan. 15, 1654. ſaith as followeth.

HE ſaith, that he hath for this year now paſt lived at his mother the lady Littleton V.xxii.p.377. her houſe, in St. Martin's lane, and that in or about October laſt he went to Arley aforeſaid; after about a month's ſtay there, he from thence accompanied his brother ſir Henry Littleton to Hagley in the county of Worceſter, to his wedding at Wincheſter, and returned to London about three weeks or a month before Chriſtmas; and after his coming to town, as aforeſaid, he being inquired of by major Henry Norwood, whether his brother, ſir Henry Littleton, being ſheriff of Worceſterſhire, would not need piſtols for accommodating his horſemen in his ſheriffdom; and major Norwood alſo telling him, that the ſame was neceſſary, and that it would be a conveniency to him the ſaid major to provide them, he having provided many other arms for Virginia, he the examinee did thereon write down (by his man, as he takes it) to his ſaid brother, to know his mind in that behalf, who ſent him word to provide 40 pair of piſtols for the uſe aforeſaid, and to take them of major Norwood, as was deſired; but the letter ſent by his brother for the ſame is now loſt, he conceiving it not of any conſequence to keep it. And the examinee ſaith, that thereupon he did accordingly beſpeak 40 pair of piſtols of major Norwood for the ſaid uſe, which were by the ſaid major provided and put into 2 cheſts, and ſent away after his the examinee's going from London the week before Chriſtmas, he going to his brother's at Hagley, and to Arley, where he ſtaid till his laſt coming up to London, being on ſaturday laſt, having left it to major Norwood to ſend them away, and to one mr. Lloyd, ſometimes a ſervant to his family, to direct them to his ſaid brother's houſe at Hagley. And he ſaith, that he beſpoke no other arms whatſoever, nor doth he know of any arms ſent to his brother's at any other time than as is before ſet down. Nor doth he believe any others were ſent, only ſome ſaddles were ſent to his brother in a cheſt, as he takes it, the carriage before, which were alſo provided on this examinee's deſire, being about 28 or 30 in number, by the ſaid major Norwood. And he farther ſaith, that he is well acquainted with the ſaid major Norwood, and hath been for divers years; and hath ſeveral times met with the ſaid major Norwood ſince his coming up as aforeſaid after his brother's marriage, and particularly four or five times at the lady Newport's in Lincoln's-inn-fields, where there have been in their company, as he remembers, beſides thoſe of the family, one mr. Beverley and one mr. Browne, a kinsman of the lord Herbert's, and ſome others, whom he remembers not. And one time at the examinee's lodgings, being at one Liſſon's, a barber near by the Roſe tavern in Covent Garden, where the ſaid mr. Lloyd was in company with them, and no other, and once at the lodging of the ſaid major in the Temple, no other perſon but themſelves being there. And that the diſcourſe he had with major Norwood at any of the ſaid times was about ordinary matters, but nothing relating to any deſign, the correſpondence betwixt them being merely on the ſcore of ancient friendſhip; but he ſaith, he thinks when he beſpoke the ſaid piſtols of major Norwood, they were provided ſooner than he could expect them; and therefore he believes he the ſaid major had a greater quantity of arms ready; and the rather becauſe he told the examinee, he had provided many for Virginia. He ſaith farther, that he thinks major Norwood ſent the ſaid cheſt of arms to the inn; but by what conveyance, or who was the carman, waterman, or other perſon, that carried them, he knows not. As alſo he ſaith, that together with the ſaid cheſt there was ſent to his brother's houſe a hamper, containing one great ſaddle, and one ordinary ſaddle, for the uſe of his ſaid brother, and on his deſire, he ſignifying by his letter to this examinee, that the ſaid great ſaddle was for his own riding, which letter is alſo loſt; and alſo a ſmall trunk, containing the examinee's clothes. And he farther ſaith, that he knows not, nor hath heard of any intention in his ſaid brother or any other, to make uſe of the ſaid arms or other things beforementioned, or of any other arms, for any deſign or purpoſe otherwiſe than as is before expreſſed.

CHARLES LYTTTELTON.

This examination taken by me,
WILLIAM JESSOP.

The

A. D. 1654.

The said Charles Littleton being farther examined Jan. 16, 1654.

He saith, that the reason why he and others of the family denied to the soldiers in the country to have any arms at Hagley, and that the things brought down thither in the chests were pewter, (when search was made at his brother's sir Henry Littleton's house for arms at two several times) was because soldiers came thither armed, and for fear of plundering. He saith farther, that for the 40 pair of pistols with the holsters he bought of mr. Norwood, he was to pay 20 s. a pair, of which he paid about 35 l. (the rest being still owing) which he paid at his, the examine's, chamber (no other being present) with money, which he received of his brother, sir Henry Littleton, and brought up with him to London. He denies, that he bought any carbines to be sent to his said brother. He saith he knows not mr. Custis the merchant, nor mr. Glover, nor mr. Rowland Thomas. He knows col. Vernon, but never saw him in major Norwood's company, nor hath heard major Norwood speak of him, to his remembrance. He saith, he knows not how the arms came to be emptied out of the chests into his said brother's closet; but saith, that the lady Littleton, the examine's sister-in-law, said to this purpose, that those base boxes had made the soldiers believe there were arms in the house, and that therefore she would burn them; which was accordingly done presently after. He saith, he knows not of any other arms sent to any person other than as is mentioned in his examination yesterday; and denies that major Norwood communicated to him, this examine, any design for the late king of Scots. He saith, that mr. Lloyd, to his knowledge, was not acquainted with the things contained in the chests; and farther, that at his last coming to his said brother's he heard, that his said brother had bespoke 50 pair of pistols at Worcester, but asking his brother thereabout, his brother denied that he had bespoke any. And the examine is confident, none was so bespoke, and the rather, because he thinks there is no gunsmith there or elsewhere in the country able to make a pair of pistols.

CHARLES LYTTTELTON.

A letter of intelligence.

Hamburg, January 16, 1655. [S. V.]

V.xxii.p.173.

BY the last letters from Riga it's said, that the Muscovites having taken the considerable fort of Dunenbrough, 25 miles from Riga, was now grown so insolent, as to demand a pass for 50000 men from the Swede through Liefeland, or as some say from the duke of Courland through his country, which annoyance of the Muscovites, as it causeth great perplexity at Riga, and those parts, so it animates the Poles exceedingly, being the only and final hopes they have, that their proud enemies, by this his insolent demeanor, will provoke the crown of Sweden or some other considerable state to come upon his back, whereby he may be diverted from bringing them to utter ruin and destruction. Touching the business of the king of Denmark's inauguration here, nothing as yet is concluded upon; but it is very doubtful. Secretary Coyet is now arrived here, and will be gone with all speed for England.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

Samedy, Jan. 20. 1655. [N. S.]

V.xxii.p.293.

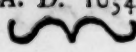
JE n'y a rien eu aujourd'huy digne de remarque. L'Hollande minute au advis trenchant & rigide contre les provinces, qui veulent elire mareschal de camp. Il estoit desja prest pour estre produit dans la generalité; mais il y a en des villes, qui l'ont encore voulu communiquer dans leur Vroetschappen.

Aufy la Hollande a prest l'avis touchant les debtes d'Ostfrise.

Lundy, Jan. 22.

Ceux de Zeelande ont maintenant aussy produit leur advis provincial touchant le traité d'Elbing, qui parle aussy des elucidations, ne differant guere de celui de Hollande; se remarquant, que ces 2 provinces ont conferres ensemble sur ce point.

Mais sur le point de conferer la charge de mareschal de camp, ces 2 provinces n'accordent pas si bien, car les 5 villes de Zeelande ont desja avisé sur ce point, desirants que la charge soit conferrée, sans avoir esgard a la harmonie.

De la part de Dantfick est donné memoire, requirant payment du subsidie & rembourse- A. D. 1654.
ment de ce que la ville a depensé aux troupes de c'est estat, sur quoy n'est resolu, si non 
overgenomen.

Mardy, Jan. 23.

Aujourd'huy sera resolu a l'instance des princesses royale & douagere, de faire office tant icy pres son ex. l'ambassadeur de Spaigne, qu'a Brussels, a ce que satisfaction soit fait au prince d'Orange touchant & en suite du traité de Munster.

L'Hollande a tasché de faire resoudre & conclurre pour arrester la ratification du traité d'Elbingen sur les elucidations proposées par la Hollande; mais la plus part des provinces ont declarées de n'estre pas prestes.

Le sieur de Gent ausly a fait rapport dans la grand affaire d'Ostfrise. La Utrecht a promis se declarer demain.

Mécredy, Jan. 24.

Mess. de Holland ont maintenant de chief importé de considerations sur le concept traité de mariné, qui est venu de Anglois, dont entre autres ils effacent l'article (je croy le 12^{me}) qui ne continue ce traité, que pour 2 ou 3 ans, car mess. de Hollande entendent, que ce traité doit estre perpetuel, comme dependant du traité de paix, qui de meme est perpetuel.

Item, ils ont proposé d'escrire, comme il sera escrit au sieur de Nieuport ambassadeur, a fin de procurer la revocation du placard Anglois de l'an 1651 nommé, *increase of shipping and trade*.

Les provinces se sont conformes avec la Hollande touchant les points du ratification ou elucidation attaches a la ratification du traité d'Elbing. La Frise seule a fait annoter n'estre pas chargée.

Jeudy, Jan. 25.

Les 2 correspondents, l'un a Statyn, l'autre a Dantfick (auparavant a Königsberge) font tous deux rapelles, n'escrivant que discours de Taverne. Aujourd'huy ceux de Hollande ont esté en corps dans les estats generaux, ou le raet pensionnaire a harangué, que les sieurs ses principaux avec estonnement avoient aprins, que les autres provinces avoyent taché d'elire un mareschal de camp ou chef general de la milite, au lieu qu'estant en pais, ou n'avoient pas besoin de mareschal du camp, car on ne va pas en campagne; & quand bien il seroit besoin d'aller en campagne (comme estant raisonnable de songer a la guerre, estant en paix) que chaque province estant libre, ne pouvoit estre astraint par pluralité de voix de prendre un chef, qui ne luy seroit pas agreeable. Que sur ce sujet messieurs de Hollande avoient escrits a toutes les provinces, & qu'ils requerroient, qu'on ne veuille rien precipiter en cela. Les autres provinces ont demandé le susdit avis de Hollande par escrit, comme ausly copie de la lettre écrite aux provinces, ce qu'on leur a promis.

La ratification du traité d'Elbing a derechef esté sur ce tapis. La plus part des autres provinces ont encore dit n'estre pas charge sur cela; neantmoins il y a de l'apparence, que cela ce fera.

La Hollande s'est ausly accomodée avec ces autres provinces touchant les debtes de Ostfrise, sur quoy fera conference.

Vendredy, Jan. 26.

Aujourd'huy c'à este le tour de ceux de Zeelande. Le sieur Veth a representé en beaucoup de façon par des passages divers, spécialement par des resolutions de la grande assemblée de l'an 1651, que ceux de Hollande meme ont jugé necessaire, qu'il y eust un mareschal de camp, & par plusieurs arguments & raisons a deduit, que la milice ne peut point estre sans teste; conséquement que la Hollande a tort de s'opposer si fort contre l'election d'un mareschal de camp. L'affaire en est encore demeurée la, & demain en sera derechef parlé; & toute fois la Hollande en sa resolution parle clair de n'en vouloir point.

L'on aura conclu dans l'affaire de la ratification du traité d'Elbing.

The lieutenant governor of Calais to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Calais, January 26, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

A. D. 1654.
V. xxii. p. 383.

THEY write me word from Paris, that we are like to have a war with England. You know the truth thereof best yourself. All our frontiers are very quiet. It is true, that some days since there arrived some foot at St. Omer, and we are informed, that it is a regiment of the prince of Condé's forces. We have sent to know the truth. The marshal d'Aumont hath failed in his design, which he had to have surprised the chiefeft officers of Artois, who were come to St. Omer, and were to march to some other place from thence; but his design was discovered; so that the said marshal was forced to return back with the cavalry, which he had taken with him to execute his design.

Captain George Palmer to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxxiv.
p. 491.

ACCORDING to your order, I sent to apprehend Bird, mr. Walter Vernon his man; alsoe to search mr. Cotton his house for armes. As to the former, hee is fledd, and hath beene soe almost ever since the apprehending of colonell Vernon; but this enclosed is the substance of what hee did say before justice Watfon, whose letter this is*. And for mr. Cotton, wee finde noe just cause of apprehending him, or seizing those guns, hee never denying them, nor any thing else, that might reasonably bee demanded from him; and by certaintest information we can gaine from honest people, his neighbours, hee is not justly rendred suspicious; which at presant is all from

Your honour's humble servant,

Coventry, Jan. 16, 1654.

GEORGE PALMER.

Major general Overton to a friend of his.

DEAR SIR,

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

BY the lord protector's order I was yesterday confined a prisoner in the tower of London; where (as also before I came thither) having received information of those false reports and misprisions I am under, I thought good for your own and my christian friends satisfaction with you, to give my answers to those objections divulged against me, which you may take as followeth.

Objection I. That before my going into Scotland, I engaged to my lord protector, that I would be true unto my trust; and told him, that I would let him know, when I could serve him no longer. But now it is reported, that I have forfeited my trust, by going about to divide the army, and resolving to march in the head of a party for England, and there, as in Scotland, to abett the caveleers design. To which I answer,

Reply I. That I am still true unto my trust, and have kept my resolutions, to let his lordship know, when I could serve him no longer; adding, that when I perceived his lordship did only design the setting up of himself, and not the good of those nations, I could not set one foot before another to serve him; to which he replied, thou wert a knave, if thou wouldst. Nor did I ever go about to divide the army, promise to head any party, or intend to joyn with the cavileers (Scotch or English) but on the contrary, having heard, that upon the address made by the officers at Jameses's, some honest officers at Aberdeen had debates of that nature, I sent to them first, to forbear their debates; and after understanding, that they were under some pressure of spirit in that particular, and purposed to meet at Edenbrough about the discharge of their dutys and consciences in that kind, I sent for them, and told them, that if they intended any thing in an unwarrantable way, I could not conceal it. Whereupon they promised me to do all things in God's way; and that they would acquaint the general therewith, and do nothing therein without his consent.

Objection II. The newsmongers and others, I perceive, report me to be a leveller, and a discontented person, for that other officers were preferred before me, who were my juniors; and that I was absent from my charge in Scotland two years together. To all which I thus answer.

Reply II. 1. That if a leveller be one, who bears affection to anarchy, destroying propriety or government, then I am none. But if upon the account of New-market and

other

* See his letter of Jan. 11, 1654.

A. D. 1654.

other engagements, for the settling of a well grounded government, redress of grievances, civil, ecclesiastical, or military, or inflicting condign punishment upon capital offenders, &c. if this be levelling, I was and am a leveller. 2. I acknowledge it was some dissatisfaction to me, to have some of my junior colonels preferred over my head; yet neither that nor any other neglect did ever discourage or hinder me from doing my duty diligently, faithfully, and for the most part (I bless God for it) effectually, for these thirteen years. 3. As concerning my absence from my command in Scotland, I confess, after I had discontinued from England near upon the matter of two years, my father dying in the interim, and my estate left in a disordered and unsettled condition (diverse debts, as I believe, yet undischarged, and to my detriment, I doubt, become desperate through default of timely looking to) I did desire general Dean's pass for England, which I had without limitation of time to return in. And finding my occasions in my own country to be very commanding (knowing in how peaceable a posture all things were at my coming from Scotland, and so continued for three quarters of a year after) I presumed to stay in my government at Hull, untill I understood, that there were some stirrs in Scotland; whereupon I immediately writt to his excellency the lord general, to know whether or no he expected any further service from me in that nation. But receiving no answer of my letter, and immediately after the parliament being dissolved, in order to my own satisfaction, as to the one and the other, I came up to London, and gave his lordship an account both of the reasons and warrant for my stay in England, wherewith his lordship seemed then satisfied. And as to the continuance of my two commands, it was neither by me desired nor endeavoured, I having formerly by my friend colonel Salmon made a tender to resign my regiment in Scotland; and (all things being in a peaceable posture there) I was willing to have retired myself to my government at Hull, that thereby I might have enjoyed the comforts of my relations and country; but this not being accepted, I now see there was a providence in order to my present reproach, which I trust in his own good time the Lord our God will rowl away. For if truth itself be not over-born or out-faced, I shall in the upshot neither appear hypocritical or perfidious, as hath been reported. And if this cannot stop the mouth of the malevolent, I trust it may in some measure satisfy the godly wise, who, if they be my friends, I shall be the better enabled to bear the browbeatings of others report or reproaches causelessly cast upon me.

Objection III. But, say some, you made a company of scandalous verses upon the lord protector, whereby his highness and divers others were offended and displeased for your so doing.

Reply III. I must acknowledge I copied a paper of verses, called the Character of a Protector; but I did neither compose, nor (to the best of my remembrance) shew them to any, after I had writ them forth. They were taken out of my letter case at Leith, where they had lain a long time by me neglected and forgotten. I had them from a friend, who wished my lord well, and who told me, that his lordship had seen them, and I believe laughed at them, as (to my knowledge) heretofore he hath done at papers and pamphlets of more personal and particular import or abuse.

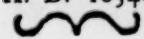
Objection IV. Another thing objected against me, as I am informed, is, letters of dangerous consequence intercepted, as they were coming to me.

Reply IV. In regard I received them not, I cannot judge of their danger or significance. Indeed I did hear, that letters of dissatisfactory import were directed to diverse in Scotland, with printed papers and petitions in them, sent to Leith and other places; but those, to whom they were directed, know not whence they came, having neither subscription nor dates. And it is possible, some dissatisfied persons in England might direct letters to me as to other men upon the same account and score. Nay, is it not probable, that some informers (not my friends) to render their service more suitable to their salaries, might report or suggest, from their own or others opinions, some high expectation had of me in the matters forementioned, viz. the dividing and marching a part of the army into England, which no man living shall be justly able to make good against me, it being (as I well know) a thing dangerous and unfeasible, and most unlikely to end in any thing but division and destruction (two inseperable adjuncts, saith Cæsar Borgia) therefore as far from my purpose, as in itself impracticable, as the constitution of the army stood.

Objection V. But, say some, you and other officers refused to come to the head quarters, when general Monck commanded you; which was a convincing argument of your guilt and disobedience, and the occasion given him to send a guard for you.

Reply V. To this I answer, we should herein have been much to blame, had the reports of the week writers been true, the contrary whereof will be witnessed as followeth: For first some of the officers were imprisoned at Dundee, as they were voluntarily marching towards the head quarters; and I know none of the rest, who did delay to come, after they were commanded. For myself, the very day before mr. Oates's going towards Edinburgh, I remember I received from mr. Clark (general Monck's secretary) a letter, in the latter end whereof he thus hints: I cannot give you any account of the grounds of the
general's

A. D. 1654.



general's sending for you to the head quarters; but herewith receiving no letter from the general, I concluded a miscarriage of his letter, or a mistake in mr. Clark's relation. However (as will be witnessed) I was so far from refusing to obey the general's command, that I was resolved to set forwards from Dalkeith the next morning, had I not been dissuaded by some of my fellow officers; whereupon I immediately dispatcht a letter to general Monck (to be conveyed from garrison to garrison day and night, untill it came to his hands) intimating my real readiness to observe his commands by letter or messenger. Two days after I had written to him, two of his letters came together to my hands, intimating his desire to have me come to the head quarters with what convenience I could. And at the very same time I received letters from general Middleton and the earl of Seaforth, desiring a capitulation, in order to their own with their parties coming in, and laying down their arms; upon which account I was perswaded to stay a day longer, to draw up and debate proposalls; but that evening a letter coming from the general upon the fore-mentioned account, I declined all further debate with Pluscardin, the earl's uncle, advising him and general Middleton's trumpet to proceed in pursuance of their business at the head quarters, whither I was going with all possible speed. How therefore I should be accused of neglect or disobedience to the general's commands, I cannot imagine; but shall leave it to the judicious to determine, not doubting but wherein men have mistaken, the searcher of the heart and the tryer of the reins will in due time rectify their aberrations. In the interim I shall conclude with what a prisoner (and my predecessor in this place) from the apostle saint Peter observes of promises, and from the apostle Paul of afflictions; *but he chastened us for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.* So for promises 2 Peter i. 4. *There are given to us exceeding great and precious promises, that by them we should be partakers of the divine nature.* Why therefore (saith he) may we not say, there are given unto us exceeding great and precious afflictions, that by them we might be partakers of the divine nature; that is, of his holiness; *for to you it is given not only to believe, but to suffer,* Phil. i. 29. Thus God sweetens the very nature of afflictions, and molds us thereby into his own image; for as Christ became a perfect mediator by his passion; so by suffering our Lord can consecrate us to himself. *I fill up,* saith saint Paul, *that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh;* so that we see Christ is not full, till his members (more or less) have had their measure of sufferings. If in patience we possess our spirits, we shall inherit the promises. Our chastening touching patience and perseverance unto the end will turn our crowns of thorns into crowns of glory, and bring us forth of the furnace of affliction, as his monuments of free grace, who saith, I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me, &c. Thus, sir, having given you a true account of the nature of those accusations, which I understand are suggested against me, for which I trust I shall not be condemned, before I be convicted; commending you to the protection of the father of spirits, and God of all grace, desiring your prayers, that I may improve this prison dispensation in the exercise of patience, to his glory and the increase of my own comforts, I bid you farewell,

Your's in him, by whom we are what we are,

ROBERT OVERTON.

From my imprisonment in the
Tower of London, Jan. 17,
1654.

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

V. lxiv. p. 235.

I SHOULD rejoyce, if the Lord please so, to heare, that there was a probability of a good understanding betwixt my lord protector and parliament; which if not, I know my lord will be forced to put forth something to a publicque view, upon which will depend great part of our future quiett and peace; and therefore as comprehensive as possible you can upon those two essentials, which hath bine hitherunto the great encouragements to those, who have continued faithfull to the publicque interest, will certainly be of very necessary and great concernment; I meane that, which concernes our civill and religious liberties, that of tender consciences, and successive parliaments, without perpetuities. I know this business is too great for me to venture on, and it is the Lord alone, that must direct you to a right ordering of this affaire. I know you understand what late commands his highnes sent mee concerning lieutenant general Ludlow. I shall intreate, that you will acquaint his highnes, that upon the councill's former letter I did desire to have had his commission delivered to mee. His answer upon the whole is to this purpose, that he conceives it to be too much against his principles, by which he hath acted, to deliver it up without a legal conviction; but saith, if I command it

it from him he will give it under hand (but not deliver it up) that he will not act by it without my order. I intend to put him out of the muster roles; and if his highness please, I could wish (by reason of our antient acquaintance) he would give me libertie to dispense with his last commands; but if it be thought adviseable, I shall on the next notice from you observe them. 'Tis late, and I must desire your excuse for this brevity of,

Your affectionate humble servant,

Jan. 17, 1654.

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

The Spanish ambassador to the protector.

SERENE LORD,

HAVING considered what your highness hath been pleased to write unto me the 23d of this month, upon the instances, which the sons of Peter Richaut make, that letters of reprisal should be granted unto them against the king my master and his subjects, for satisfaction of a sum of money, which they do pretend to be due unto them from his majesty by a schedule of his, which they do exhibit, and a copy whereof was given me: that which in answer thereunto doth occur unto me to represent unto your highness is, that the contents of the said schedule doth shew evidently the injustice of their pretending to receive satisfaction by way of reprisal, which neither may nor ought to be granted or given to a subject against his natural lord; and the said Peter Richaut being such (as it doth clearly appear by the schedule, at the beginning whereof it is expressed and declared, that Peter Richaut was a merchant of Flanders, and native of Antwerp, and consequently subject to his majesty) it would be against all right to grant them letters of reprisal. And although the heirs and executors of the said Peter Richaut be English-born, nevertheless regard always must be had to the quality of the person, who made the contract, from whom the said debt did originally proceed. Neither may the sons have more right than that of their father, from whom that, which they do pretend to have to the aforesaid debt, doth derive. Besides that is a thing not used in any nation to grant letters of reprisal (which is a mean violent, irregular, and publick) for a debt occasioned by a private and civil contract; and particularly justice being not denied in this case (as the party himself doth confess) but rather a sentence obtained in their behalfs against the real revenue of his majesty; and by reason of the delay of the payment, an interest of 10 per cent. was agreed upon, whereby the debt did so increase, that the principal importing only eight millions and some thousands of maravedis (the said Peter Richaut reckoning his goods at a higher price by half than they were worth) the interest thereof alone doth amount unto between fourteen and fifteen millions of maravedis, being near twice the principal sum; to which the said sum had never risen, had it not been for the delay, whereof they complain; and in the said sum are comprehended five hundred crowns, which were graciously given the said Peter Richaut for a present, over and above the price of the goods sold by him, and the interest at ten in the hundred. And it would be a thing very strange, that for a debt caused by a civil and particular contract, as aforesaid, and made between a subject and his sovereign lord, who hath not denied justice, and the interest still running until the time of payment, letters of reprisal should be granted against all civil right, laws of nations, and universal practice of all people, and particularly at the same time, when this commonwealth doth detain 252000 pieces of eight, which came into England from the island of saint Domingo, in the ship *santa Clara*, whereof Benedict Stafford was captain, belonging and appertaining to subjects of the king my master, which the parliament hath acknowledged to owe unto them; yet detained the same for these thirteen years without paying any interest; and the interested of the said monies, subjects of his majesty, seeing themselves ruined and undone, made application to the king my master for letters of reprisal against this commonwealth and the people thereof; which his majesty hath not granted hitherto, deferring the same, with hope that the commonwealth in convenient time would not deny satisfaction of what is so justly due unto them; and likewise when the sum of one million and a half of pieces of eight, belonging to subjects of his said majesty, are here detained out of three *Hamburg* ships upon the single pretence, that the same doth belong to *Hollanders*, there being no other proof for it than a bare apprehension and suspicion of the parties interested in the said monies, not having been able, notwithstanding all their legal endeavours to obtain the restitution of their said monies and goods, justice being not only denied unto them, but the recourse of the law stopt, their cases not being admitted to hearing, that they might be either freed or condemned; and notwithstanding these proceedings, and that the said parties do insist upon the like remedy of reprisal, his majesty hath not hitherto granted them, promising himself that your highness will give order, that justice be ad-

VOL. III.

G g

ministred,

A. D. 1654. *ministred, and due satisfaction given them. All which I do represent unto your highness, desiring you will be pleased to command, that the same may be taken into serious consideration, and how against all reason and right it would be to grant unto the said Richauts the said letters of reprisal, when by ordinary ways they may receive satisfaction; which I do not doubt will be given them the sooner in contemplation of your highness's recommendation in their behalfs. And perhaps they had obtained it, if they had applied themselves, and solicited the same in Madrid, after that your highness were pleased to recommend their cause unto me. Yet I shall out of hand give notice unto his majesty of your highness's earnest desires, that they receive satisfaction, to the end that his majesty may be pleased to command with speed the same to be given them. God preserve your highness for many years. London, the 1st of Jan. 1654. I kiss, serene lord, your highness's hands, being your highness's most affected servant,*

DON ALONSO DE CARDENAS.

A letter of intelligence from Holland.

SIR,

V.xxii.p.393. *SINCE my last here hath occur'd nothinge of importance, nor have I receeved any letters from Ceullen, or any other correspondence this weeck. The duke of Gloster is come to Teyling to his sister's court. The marquis of Ormond tooke his leave of him at Antwerp, whence he went to Ceullen, where I understand by a friend there are divisions amongst the counsell of the kinge: the lord Weyntworth and chancelor Hyde have had some difference, and marquis Ormond with lord Wilmot, as 'tis said, concerning the duke of Gloster's turninge his religion, the which I belive doth not so much perplex the K. and his partye, as the discovere of a greater designe in England, the which I understand by other letters from thence is knipt in the bud by the incomparable vigilancie of those in the present government. I finde many are already apprehended, as the phamlet tells, and more dayly bringing in, which I take not for authentick. Therefore I beseech you to informe mee the certainty of affayres, which I much longe to understand. By my next I shall indeavour to give you a larger account of our former busines, hoping by that tyme to speake with the gentleman. In the meane tyme I remayne,*

Jan. 28, 1655. [N. S.]

Your faithfull and humble servant.

JOHN ADDAMS.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

MONSIEUR,

V.xxii.p.397. *CETTE semaine passée la Frise president a renouvelé la mention de sa proposition du 7 Jan. a ce que les sieurs Beverning & Nieupoort fissent rapport, & rendissent conte, sur quoy n'est suivé que cette maigre resolution marquée N° 1, que ne signifie rien; & a peine continent ou exprime la chose, dont s'agit.*

*Messieurs de Hollande ayant ouy la relation sommaire de ce que le sieur Beverning a fait touchant l'acte de seclusion, l'en a remercié, & il a fait un serment, non tant requis, qui ultronée, non seulement que luy & le sieur Nieupoort estoient hors de faute, & point cause mouvante de la seclusion, mais aussy que nul autre de c'est estat en soit cause; ains que tout soit venu de seul & unique propre mouvement de lord protecteur. Et la resolution, qui contient cette narrée, ils l'ont portée dans la generalité. Et l'assemblée se separara la dessus le 26 de ce mois, & seize membres de Hollande ont desja nommé le sieur Beverning pour député extraordinaire dans les estates generaux: les 3 membres restants (car telle chose se doit faire *utis omnibus, nullo contradicente*) l'ont overgenoomen, ou prins *ad referendum*, icy N° 2.*

L'ambassadeur de France par ordre de son roy a présenté memoire & office en faveur des chevaliers des Malta. Mais c'est une vielle question, & tant ceux de Harlem que ceux d'Utrecht, qui possident ces biens, n'en demordront jamais; & le dit ambassadeur ne fera que se hair par ces offices. De l'alliance entre son roy & c'est estat il ne se parle pas seulement.

Icy court une lettre responsive de l'ambassadeur de France a celle de la reyne de Suede, qui apparemment conviera quelque replique. Et si Arras a fourny matiere de braver d'un coste, de l'autre coste le non-succes du duc de Guise sur Naples servira a l'autre.

La court de Hollande passe outre a proceder contre Haex. Quant a Schonenburgh, ceux de Hollande en laissent le soin a la generalité.

Je voy de plus en plus, que ceux de la dite province s'affirmissent, & parlent plus clair A. D. 1654
qu'auparavant; & au lieu que cy devant ils trembloient, quand on leur objectoit l'acte
de seclusion, a present aucuns parlent de faire un acte entre eux de ne vouloir jamais plus de
ouir stadtholder, ains se gouverneur sans stadtholder en parfaits republicains; & l'on remarque
palpablement, que ceux de Twent & Deventer s'assurent de l'assistance de la dite pro-
vince de Hollande, car autrement le 149 avec l'aide de 108, 110, & le plus par
Overysfell
de 109 les contraindrait.

Zeelande amis du maison d'Orange republicains amis d'Orange
Et quand a 106, il y a des 145 & des 174. Les 145 ont trop
Cromwel les estats d'Hollande
de peur de 130. Bref si 105 continuent estre unis, comme ils sont,
prince d'Orange grave Guillaume
tant le 148 que 149 peuvent bien se reposer pour long temps; ne
soit qu'en vienne changement, ce que les disent estre comme impossible: certes les
bons Hollandois Cromwell
173 se fondent fort sur 130.

estats de Hollande

Mais tout depend de la propre concorde de 105.

L'assemblée des estats de Hollande se separa a le 26, & ne reveindra que vers le mois
de Mars. Des points, qu'ils ont eu en deliberation, ils n'ont effectivement rien fait.
Comme touchant quelque ulterieure reduction de la milice, cassation de 12 cornettes de
cavallerie, reduction des interests, &c. comme aussi le sieur Beverning n'est pas encore
bons Hollandois

vosté unanimement deputé aux estats generaux, comme c'est le dessein de 173. Et c'est une
imperfection en Hollande, qu'il y a tant de membres, & chaque membre est une teste; &
il faut, que toutes ces testes soient en un chaperon, devant que telles choses (comme est
la deputation d'un extraordinaire dans les estats generaux) se fassent; & pour tant messieurs de
Hollande ont fait un tentamen & essay pour induire les estats generaux a vouloir conferer
en fin l'effect de la commission de la charge du tresorier general au sieur Beverning. Pour
tel effect ils comparurent dans les estats generaux en corps le 26 au matin, produisant
leur resolution du 20, pour representer l'innocence du sieur Beverning, ayant juré que
l'acte de seclusion ne provenoit de lui, ne d'aucun de la provinces d'Hollande; consequem-
ment, qu'il plust aux estats generaux de retirer, & oster leur resolution du 7 Jan. &
admettre le sieur Beverning a la charge de tresorier. La Geldre & Utrecht declararent de
n'avoir point ordre contre cela; mais la Zeelande, Freize, Overysfell, Groning, Omlande ont
persisté en la dite resolution du 19 Decembre, disant, que Beverning doit faire rapport
au contentement des provinces devant toutes choses, ou devant qu'estre admis a la dite
charge; & par ainsy l'affaire a encore hesité.

Du parti du Twente & Deventer ont esté icy les sieurs Bentinck & Scheel, deux gentil-
bons Hollandois estats de Hollande
hommes fort 173, mais ils n'ont que parlé sous mains a un & autre de 105, sans que
les estats de Hollande

toutefois dans 105 en soit proposé aucune chose. L'intention de ces 2 quartiers est non seule-
ment de ne vouloir point de stadtholder pour eux, mais voulant aussi, que les autres membres
foyent sans stadtholder; presuppposé ce principe, que devant tout soit preallablement unani-
ment resolu *an, postea quis debeat eligi*.

Touchant les hostilités de Sallé, l'advis tant de l'admirauté a Amsterdam que de Hol-
lande est, qu'on doit traiter & tascher a faire un accord avec ce gouverneur de Sallé.
Il se trouve, que le jeune Tromp a principalement bouté ce feu, les ayant irrité par la
prise d'un navire, qui est pary; & sur cela sont suivies un & autre prise de coste &
d'autre. Neantmoins cela n'aydant pas, que l'on tentera la voye de Guerre, & toutefois
pour encore n'est rien resolu de l'equipage des 36 navires vers le mer Mediterranée.

Le sieur conseiller Veth pour avoir battu sa femme interdit de sa session, a la mine de
ne rentrer jamais dans sa charge. Quantité de ces Zeelandois ou Zeuwen sont un peu
furieux; *sunt sevi*; & quantité d'eux autrefois croyoient & crioient, qu'il estoit aussi
aisé de chasser les parlamentaires (qu'ils appelloient rebelles) de l'Angleterre, comme de
chasser la femme de chez foy. Vous auriez dit, que chaque *sevus* ou Zeelandois avoit
un staert dans le bec, & regardoit ou estoit le restant. Mais par la guerre de ces 2 ans ils
en ont esté desabusés, & ne crient plus si haut, & sont moins *sevi*, si ce n'est contre une
femme.

Et quant au sieur d'Achtienhoven, son affaire a desja esté devant commissaires de la
court de Hollande, Dorp, & Nyrop. Il fait tout ce qu'il peut pour ce faire declarer
cocu, produisant aussi une petite fille, dont sa femme accouchea lendemain de ses nopces.
Il l'a icy devant tenu secret, & toutefois avoué pour sienne. Maintenant il doute, si
l'enfant

A. D. 1654. l'infant est de luy seul, comme la production de ces cornes est indubitablement de sa femme seule, selon sa propre confession. Les messieurs ont pour devise *cum Deo pavus fit leo*. Maintenant disent leurs envieux faut mettre, *si vult diabolus, pavo fit cuculus*.

Ce Jan. 29. [1655. N. S.]

Vostre tres humble &c.

A Letter of intelligence from the Hague.

MONSIEUR,

V.xxii. p.409.

ENCORE aujourd'huy (comme toute cette semaine) on à alterqué touchant la resolution Hollandoise du 20, parlant de la justification du sieur Beverning. Hier estant conceu quelque conclusion, elle fust a ce matin a la resumption trouvée un peu changée: de quoy le sieur Veth accuse le sieur Mareignault, & en eurent grosses parolles jusques des reproches de sot, ignorant, ne manquant rien que l'application de coups de poing; & je apprens, que la conclusion en fin sera simple waarop gedeliberant synde sebben de provincien geperstent by vorige advysen & dien on vermeldert versoeft copie van de gemelde resolutie vand 20 Jan. Par la ce voit bien qu'entre ceux de Zeelande il y a grande discrepance: il y a aussy en nouvelle instance de la part de Schop & du conseil de guerre pour expedition de justice, ou pour & sur la judicature de Haex & Schoneburgh. Du protecteur & du parlement le sieur Nieupoort escrit modestement; mais les royalistes icy ont advis, que la plus part de la milice soyent contre le lord protecteur, comme aussy la plus part du parlement, spécialement que la lieutenant general du general Monck, assavoir Overton, seroit arresté, & que tous ceux la soyent de la conspiration. Je suis

Vostre, &c.

Ce Jan. 29, [1655. N. S.]

Mr. William Sheffield and mr. Thomas Cockram to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

V.xxii. p.411.

WE received your highnes letter of the 13th of this instant January, which hath much refreshed our spiritts, and in pursuance of our duty wee further give your highnes to understand, that immediately uppon the newes of armes being seized at Burton uppon Trent, the quakers, who were at Swannington, sent to those at Ashby de la Zouch, at eight of the clock in the night, to breake up presently, and be gone. And they went away from Ashby (which borders more uppon Burton) that very night (though it was darke and rayny) at eleven of the clocke, and those at Swannington disperfed themselves very early the next morning. They say they had summons to rendezvous from one Foxe, who gave them intimation, that there should be betweene one and two thousand. And though under pretence of peacablenes, they had not soe much as a cane or a staffe in their hands, yet some of them were accidentally seene to have pistolls at their sides under their cloakes and in their pocketts. The printer who was with them was Giles Calvert of London, who stay'd with them eight or nine dayes, and is now gone up to London with two or three queere of paper written to be putt into print. One Muggleston of Swannington, whose howse was the onlie place of their entertainment, did say, that Cockram should smart for his hard speeches concerning them; and for Sheffield, they sayd, they should have him in the lowse-howse ere it were long. Wee take the boldnes further to acquaint your highnes, that there are many honest men (formerly souldiers) that are very cordiall to publique interest, and to your highnes, who are very willing (if your highnes judge meet) to be put into a posture, that they might be the better capable of serving your highnes and their countrey. Wee hope, the lord will worke out much good out of these shakings and confusions, and that this last engine of Sathan shall prove a lye. In order to which wee humbly begg of the Lord, to keepe your highnes person and heart, that you may be further instrumentall for the good of these poore nations, which is the duty of,

Ibstock, January 21,
1654.

Your highnes

most humble servants,

WILLIAM SHEFFIELD,
THOMAS COCKRAM.

General

General Monk to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

SOME of the honest party of the ministers of Scotland called *remonstrators* haveing Vol. xxxiv. p. 621.
 (on behalfe of themselves and the rest of that partie) desired, that they may have leave to meete, to consider of, and represent to your highness, something concerning the government of the church of Scotland, and to noe other purpose; and they declaring to me, that they hope what they shall soe represent may bee conducing to settlement; I could doe noe less in their favour, then to present their desire to your highness's consideration. I humbly take leave and remaine,

My lord,

Dalkeith, Jan. 22, 1654.

your highness's

most humble servant,

GEORGE MONCK.

City of BRISTOL.

The information of George Cowlithay, of the city aforesaid, ironmonger, taken
 Jan. 22, 1654

WHO informeth upon his oath, that in the month of September last this informant V.xxii.p.415.
 had some discourse in Bristol with one mr. Coppinger, an Irishman, formerly a school-fellow of his, who came thither purposely for his passage into Ireland, and told this informant, that he had lived in Rome and Italy these eight or nine years, and taken upon him the order of a frier of the Franciscan company; and he told this informant, that he had been at London lately for some months, and whilst he was there, he had been at all the churches and meetings, publick and private, that he could hear of, and that none came so near him as the quakers; and being at a meeting of the quakers, there he met with two of his acquaintance in Rome, that were now become chief speakers among the quakers, and he himself had spoken in London among the quakers above thirty times, and was well approved of among them; the which two aforementioned persons are two of the same Franciscan order and company. And this informant farther saith, that the said mr. Coppinger asked him, what kind of opinions in religion there were in Bristol? and this informant told him, there were several opinions and judgments; and not naming any of the opinions of the said quakers, the said Coppinger asked him, whether there had been any of the quakers in Bristol? and this informant then answered him no. Whereupon the said mr. Coppinger told him, this informant, two or three times, that if he did love his religion and his soul, he should not hear them. Whereupon this informant told him, he thought none of them would come to Bristol; who presently replied, that if this informant would give him five pounds, he would make it five hundred pounds, if some quakers did not come to Bristol within three weeks or a month then following; and on the morrow following the said mr. Coppinger departed from this city to Ireland, his native place; and about 18 days after, there came to this city two persons that did bear the name of quakers.

Cardinal Mazarin to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Paris, February 2, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

I HAVE nothing to add to those letters, which were sent you the last week; whereby In the possession of the
 you will be fully informed of the intentions of the King. I hope that at present you right honour-
 will have the more facility to conclude the accommodation, since I perceive your com- able Philip
 missioners do begin to be more moderate about the article of arbitrage. lord Hard-

We have done all that we can to facilitate your negotiation for the speedy bringing of
 it to a conclusion; and we do look upon our condescensions for the obtaining of a peace, high chancel-
 as a sufficient declaration to the world of the sincere intentions of his majesty to live in peace lor of Great-
 with his neighbours; being that, which is so much beneficial to the good and welfare of Britain.
 each nation in particular, and all Christendom in general.

The Genoese ambassador to the protector.

SERENISSIMO SIGNORE,

A. D. 1654.
V.xxii.p.439.

DOPPO di haver hauuto l'honore (rivendo V. A. serenissima) di effeguire i comandi della mia republica sono andato meco stesso meditando se una cosi buona, e reciproca corrispondenza vasse ridursi in qualche frutto di beneficio commune, et invitato delle generose maniere con quali si e degnato V. A. serenissima di honorarmi prendo l'ardire di riferirle senza alcuno artificio di ministro un semplice mio sentimento. I traffichi, e ricchezze de nostri cittadini impiegati ver longhi anni ne i stati di quei principi che il tempo ci ha fatto conoscere poco legali, sono. Stati finalmente a noi materia di disgusti, et a loro ben spesso di grandezza, e sempre della propria conservatione.

Crederei che per beneficio della mia republica fosse salutare consiglio d'andare voltando altrove queste ricchezze, e traffichi, per che ubi bonum, ibi cor, ne parte alcuna mi sovviene piu a proposito, che questa d'Inghilterra, e paesi ad essa soggetti. Posciache trafficando con natione amica senza sospetto alcuno di gelosia, et con eguale corrispondenza conservarebbe. Se stessa, et le fortune de suoi Cittadini.

Crederei parimente che reciproco ne dovesse sortire il beneficio alla natione Inglese attrahendo ne proprii stati traffichi di molta consideratione, che il tempo anderà sempre via piu augmentando, con fermar del pari nel Mediterraneo, e nell oceano il stabilimento de loro negotii.

Supplico dunque V. A. serenissima de riflettere, se facendosi un decreto, che per l'avenire la natione Genovese sii trattata in tutti i stati d'Inghilterra, e provincie a lei soggette come Inglese, et con le istesse prerogative in testimonio della reciproca affettione di queste due nationi. Se si come io stimo che questo decreto inanimerà i cittadini Genovesi ad inaninare le loro facultà per questa strada, con beneficio della mia republica, e sua libertà; cosi debba l'istesso decreto essere di utile e beneficio alla natione Inglese, per le molte, et evidenti ragioni, che non dubito soueniranno all' infinita prudenza di V. A. serenissima.

Io espongo questo mio pensiero in abozzo alla generosa bontà di V. A. serenissima supplicandola a darle forma, se lo troverà di qualche consistenza, ò cancellarlo se non lo crederà tale. Mentre in me non vive altro desiderio, che del ben commune di queste due nationi.

V.

Deliver'd Jan. 23. 1654.

Humillissimo et devotissimo servitore,

UGO FRELCO. L.

To his highness the lord protector of the commonwealth of England and Ireland, &c.

The humble remonstrance and petition of the merchants adventurers of England residing at Hamburgh.

V.xxii.p.547.

YOUR highness's most humble petitioners, having received your highness's most gracious letters, being dated Dec. 22, 1654, directed to their deputy and company, do acknowledge it to have been their duty to have presented their humble answer, as deputy and company, in a court way, according to your highness's favourable directions and their obligation; but being denied that liberty, by a restraint imposed upon them, contrary to their constitutions (which they made bold to make known unto your highness by their late humble supplication) and perceiving little hopes of being restored to their privilege of acting in a court way in this affair, without your highness's special commands unto their deputy, they have found it necessary, in discharge of that dutiful satisfaction, which they are obliged to tender unto your highness, for prevention of the mischief intended by the restraint laid upon them, to wit, by their silence to render them more and more obnoxious unto your highness's displeasure, to make their humble address in the best way, that is left them, to give your highness an account of the counsels and actions of their court in those late proceedings, which they find by your highness's most gracious letters to have been misrepresented and complained of unto your highness.

In the first place, the petitioners desire, according to their bounden duty, most thankfully to acknowledge your highness's gracious inclinations to promote the welfare, and protect the government of their fellowship, so freely expressed to the company in general upon several occasions; which their brethren at London have made bold to present unto your highness and to this residence in particular, by that special protection and those extraordinary letters of grace, which your highness hath been pleased of late to vouchsafe unto them; wherein they find such bountiful emanations of your highness's favour continued unto them,

them, notwithstanding the obstructions, which the misrepresentations of their actings in court in the settlement of their government might justly have occasioned, that they cannot sufficiently admire the patience and goodness, which your highness hath been pleased to exercise toward them, in those tender expostulations and most favourable constructions of their proceedings. The petitioners desire in all humility to acknowledge their unworthiness, and to look up unto God, and to give him the glory of this your highness's gracious disposition; and shall endeavour to give your highness the testimony of their sincerity herein, by their dutiful and obedient conversation.

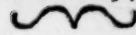
In the next place, they humbly crave leave to wipe off that malignancy or disaffection to your highness and the commonwealth, wherewith they find their persons, their counsels, and their actions, especially in the late choice of their deputy, to have been aspersed unto your highness. To this end they hold it their duty briefly to represent the truth of their proceedings in that election; whence it may appear unto your highness, that their counsels and actions therein did no way proceed from any root or spirit of malignancy, neither was promoted by any particular persons influenced by your highness's professed enemies, as hath been suggested unto your highness (though very uncharitably and wrongfully) but took their rise from an honest and careful provision for the orderly government of the fellowship, and were carried on in a court way by the generality of the company.

According to the ancient practice of the fellowship, agreeable with their charter and privileges, in June last, the brethren of the fellowship being assembled to settle the government of the several residences, when they came to the election of their deputies, they found it expedient, and generally declared it by their hands to be their judgment for that time, to make choice of a martly deputy for this residence; in which election, as they gave mr. Bradshaw the preeminence, so they chose him with much unanimity and respect, and seconded their choice with their earnest intreaties for his acceptation; but mr. Bradshaw, contrary to their expectation, was pleased to decline their choice, yet shewed himself so far from being offended at their resolutions for a martly deputy, that he continued amongst them as a member of their court, and vigorously acted with them in the nomination of another person for that service. Thereupon the assembly were constrained, for the upholding of the government even of the whole fellowship, which otherwise must have fallen to the ground, to make choice of some other person; and accordingly pitched upon mr. Francis Townley, an ancient and orderly brother of the fellowship, and eminent amongst them for his good affections to the commonwealth, and in especial manner under your highness's most happy government.

That it is in the breast of the company orderly assembled, without declaring their reasons any other way than by erection of hands, to make choice of a martly deputy, or for what other term or continuance they shall find convenient, is that, which hath the warrants of their charters, the direction of their orders, and hath been the constant and frequent practice of the company in this and in other their residences. That the petitioners did, at their election in June last, make choice of a martly deputy, they do not only all in general, but each man in particular, ingeniously profess, and solemnly protest, in the presence of Almighty God, that their proceedings therein did not in the least arise from any disaffection or disrespect to your highness's resident, or any influence, or intended prejudice or dishonour to your highness or the commonwealth, but merely from a necessary provision to prevent the presumptuous irregularities, which they found to be incroaching upon them, striking at the very root and foundation of their government; for some persons amongst them having by subtil insinuations and extraordinary obligations obtained an over-ruling interest in mr. Bradshaw, concluding him a perpetual, rather than an elective deputy, by reason of his publick character from your highness, which they observed the company most affectionately inclined to respect and reverence, began to introduce an extrajudicial jurisdiction, to the violation of their privileges, and perturbation of the peace and good government of the company; for the correction of which enormity, they judged it to be the most moderate way, and of least reflection or offence to mr. Bradshaw, for that one time to elect him deputy for the ensuing mart, having therein continued unto him the same preeminence, authority, and orderly jurisdiction, to all intents and purposes as fully as formerly, and only set a shorter time for the resuming of their election, in order to the aforementioned reformation; a remedy not only practicable by the prescriptions of this fellowship, but that which hath been approved and generally put in execution through all the councils of the nation upon the like occasions; to wit, by quickening the elections, and altering the sessions of those in the chair, to disappoint the introduction of arbitrary and illegal innovations.

Nevertheless some short time after the petitioners perceiving, that these their proceedings had been represented to your highness, as also to their brethren at London, with such sharp reflections upon their affections and respects to your highness in your publick minister, that it hath occasioned your highness to declare unto a committee of their brethren your resentments of their disrespects to your resident, in the unhandsom laying of him

aside

A. D. 1654.  aside from the place of deputy; and likewise made their brethren themselves modest and backward in presenting to your highness their intended vindication of this court's proceedings, agreeable to their letters of approbation, which they prudently upon advice of that election wrote unto this court; the petitioners had no sooner notice of that your highness's displeasure, but forthwith, having ordered letters of vindication unto your highness and unto their brethren at London, without the least delay or hesitation, mr. Townley the deputy resigned his place; and the court, out of their most dutiful observances to your highness with much affection and chearfulness made choice of mr. Bradshaw to be their standing deputy for the year ensuing; which when the committee appointed to attend him made known unto him, and their entreaties for his acceptance, he was pleased upon the motion of the said committee very lovingly and readily to promise the remedy of those particulars, wherein he found the company aggrieved, and to endeavour the company's vindication to your highness to their general content and satisfaction. But mr. Bradshaw was no sooner set in the chair, but the aforementioned persons began to revive their aspersions and disorderly proceedings, to the great disturbance of the peace of the company; and never gave him rest, untill by their specious pretences they had again set on foot their former practices, and in an extrajudicial way caused a restraint to be laid upon the company's seal, impeding the sending forwards of those letters, which the court had prepared and ordered for your highness and their brethren at London's satisfaction.

The court notwithstanding at several conventions afterwards continued their desires and importunities for the sending forward of the said letters; and when they found, that they could not prevail for those, they proposed, that a committee might be appointed for the writing of some others, that so they might some way or other make known to your highness the truth of their proceedings, and thereby put themselves into a capacity of being discharged from your highness's resentments, and restored to a favourable good opinion; but the opposition of these persons was so violent, and their influence upon the deputy so prevalent, that the court could by no means obtain to have their desires ordered, nor so much as to be put to hands, though pressed by the major part, yea by the generality of the company.

The petitioners being reduced to this sad exigence, though it might very well have directed them to put in execution those remedies, which their orders had provided them; yet being sensible how boldly their most orderly actings had been lately misrepresented, and what strange ways had been used to cloud their respects to your highness's resident, and thereupon to engage him by his recommendation and prosecution to make these representations effectual to the provoking your highness's displeasure against the company; and finding a continued disposition and design in those persons, having obstructed all applications unto your highness from this court, and facilitated their own by their success in their late addresses through the resident to oppose and traduce all the actions of the court, which tended either to the justification of the court's proceedings, or the dishonour or correction of their disorders; the petitioners resolved a while to deny themselves in their just rights and principles, rather than to hazard your highness's farther resentments, through false and malicious informations, hoping withal, that this their patience and moderation might prove a means to allay the heat of those distempered spirits, and by degrees convincing them of their misapprehensions and misproceedings reduce them unto their due obedience to the order and government of the fellowship, and to a loving, peaceable and christian like union and conversation with the rest of their brethren.

Upon the receipt and publication of your highness's most gracious letters, the petitioners perceiving your highness's pleasure therein expressed, to have taken its rise, not from the chusing of a martly deputy, according to their privileges, but from the proceedings of particular persons therein, upon a principle of malignancy and disaffection to the affairs of the nation, to the dishonour of your highness and the commonwealth, and influenced by your highness's professed enemies, to the prejudice of the publick interest at home; and therefore commanding, that those persons (whom your highness, by the information that hath been given, concluded to have been the disturbers of the peace of the company) should be removed from amongst them; the petitioners, as they could not but stand amazed at these accusations, which they found to have been given in unto your highness, so that they might perform their duties with a suitable obedience to your highness's commands (to which they declared themselves most readily and affectionately inclined) it was proposed, that there might be a discovery made of those persons, that they might immediately and effectually proceed against them; but neither the resident deputy, nor any one of those discontented persons, no nor any member of the fellowship, could be found, that would charge any person or persons amongst them with the least malignancy or disaffection to your highness or the commonwealth. Nevertheless the deputy, and those discontented persons, declared it to be their judgments, that the having had a hand in the choice of a martly deputy was sufficient ground to deprive such members of their privilege in court; and thereupon proposed and pressed it with much violence, not only that some of those persons (which

(which the deputy had been pleased to nominate) but that all the members of the fellowship, except themselves (being but 8 persons) should be turned out of the court, and so the government of this residence, and consequently of the whole fellowship depending upon it to remain in their hands, to be carried on in an arbitrary way, and to be left unto their pleasures to extend mercy to such of those their created delinquents, as should in the most humble and submissive manner apply themselves unto them for their grace and favour. The assembly, judging this proposition unreasonable and mischievous to the very being of the fellowship, and no ways agreeable with the tenor of your highness's commands, were forced to declare their judgments against it; and thereupon (for the prevention of any farther misunderstanding) they desired presently to consider of an answer unto your highness, and to give an account of these proceedings, that had passed upon the publication of your highness's most gracious letters. But their motion was most peremptorily contradicted by these 8 persons, and not suffered to put be to hands by the deputy. The government likewise denied to be settled, to the great prejudice of the affairs of the fellowship, and the assembly broke up and threatned to be represented disaffected and disobedient to your highness, for that they had refused to comply with them in their unjust and imperious proposition.

The petitioners having by this short and impartial narrative given your highness an account of their counsels and actions in their late choice of their deputy, together with the consequent designs and practices, that have been on foot ever since to misrepresent their proceedings therein under the notion of malignancy and disaffection, and thereby to occasion your highness's displeasure against them; they do humbly hope, that as your highness will now more clearly discern, who have been the disturbers of the peace and quiet of this society, so that your highness will graciously be pleased to be satisfied and assured in the good affection and sincere obedience of the petitioners unto your highness and the present government; wherein, as they have solemnly protested in the presence of the great God of heaven, that they have not in the least faulted in their late election, so they do most faithfully promise and engage their lives and fortunes, and all that is near and dear unto them, that their counsels as a court, and their actions as particular persons, shall be carefully and constantly disposed to as dutifull and affectionate conformity to your highness's gracious protection vouchsafed unto them, and to a ready and chearful obedience unto your highness's pleasure and commands upon all occasions.

In consideration of the premises, the petitioners make bold humbly to pray;

That your highness will most graciously be pleased, not to leave it arbitrary in the power and breast of mr. Bradshaw to expel whom he shall please out of court upon a general charge of disaffection (occasioned many times from but differing from him in judgment, in debating the civil affairs of the fellowship) but that, if any such complaint have been made, or shall at any time hereafter be made, of any member of the fellowship here residing, that your highness will be pleased to cause a particular charge to be given in against the person accused, and a time set him to answer his accusation before your highness, or whom your highness shall appoint, before he be deprived of his privilege, and expelled the court; for that besides the severity of the proceedings, the disgrace of such an expulsion will so highly prejudice him in his reputation among strangers with whom he converseth, being a merchant, and living upon his credit, as that it may prove his ruin, yea his principals also, though never so well affected, and that probably beyond all reparation. That your highness will be pleased to countenance the company in the free exercise of their jurisdiction in court, according to their ancient practices and privileges (the best remedy, as they humbly conceive, for the present distempers amongst them) and in particular, that those propositions, which shall at any time be made in court, and judged by the major part of the members to be in order to the publick good of the fellowship in general, or this residence in particular, may not be disappointed, upon some few men's misconstructions, but orderly put to hands by the deputy, and concluded by the majority of votes, and accordingly put in execution.

And lastly, that your highness would be pleased to pardon the boldness of this their necessary address, to restore the petitioners to your highness's gracious and favourable apprehensions of them, and to continue unto them the irradiations of your highness's grace and goodness, which they shall make use of to enlighten and enliven their abilities, more and more to approve themselves, your highness's, in all humble, dutiful, and sincere obedience, the merchants adventurers of England residing in Hamburg,

Fra. Townley	Edward Halford	Samuel Cooth	George Francklyn
Tho. Ashwin	Thomas Scott	Thomas Walker	Thomas Harington
Leonard Scottt	Isaac Cooke	Richard Jenkinson	Francis Anderfon
Clement Clerke	Thomas Ruggells	John Pococke	Charles Andrews
Thomas Farrington	Rich. Clutterbooke	Francis Orange	Thomas Stanley
HenryWaynewright	Daniell Milward	Thomas Bennet	Thomas Dangerfield.
William Edlin	Edmond Starkey		

J. Bingham to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

A. D. 1654.
 Vol. xxxiv.
 p. 647.

I WAS at Whitehale this afternoone to have kist his heighnes hand, was told he was ride out, and that you were not to be found; therefore puts me on this to you at present. The folloeing is a letter just now come to me; the cobby I have taken the boidnes to send you, and thus: fyr, the caveleers whisper the plot foe loudly talkt on at court is nothing but a tricke of great Oliver's to affright the parliament into a compliance with the court. Truly whilst this is spread abroad, and very maney beleve it, they meet, dance, feast, drinke, and act a knavish part in these parts. I thanke you for chiding me out of security, and surely you'll gaine by it. Syr, at col. Laurance's at the Grang in Isle Purbecke was col. Raymund, with others of Somersetshire of note, where they had a cabal every neight. 'Tis newly whispered, if the pretender were in, and the crowne settled on's head, how sweetly he would governe, give a just and due consciencious liberty, and tak of taxes, and raise the price of land and al commoditys, and suffer no beger in the land; whereas the present government must be kept up by the sould, and that sould is and must be a vast charge to the peopel. These things have ben asleepe these divers years in these parts, but I remember the ould politicke vers, *Regnabit sanguine multo regis ad imperium veniens ab exilio*. Another fourte whisper, that the pretender's freinds have made an overture to marry the lord protector's daughter. These fine bables take amounst us. The caveleers have kept great christmases after the usuall time with sets of fiddlers; a fine way to draw in the peopel in time of need. Major Uvedale, you know the man and his estate, he kept an open house for al comers; ne'ere did foe before. Major Butler kept noe house, but hath's meetings in seecret at mr. Thimbelbe's house, a papist by Minchington neere Cashmore 4 miles and a halfe from Blandford, and at Cashmore in, is now gon to Hatch by Buckland, as good as the other places. At yong squire Hid's at Horton, 8 miles from Blandford, is one Bragg, a parson, put in by Gyles Grene. He it was, that betrayed Portland castel to the caveleers at the first of our wars; at this fellow's house is tabled King Gardner, you know him, and one Thornehull; I wish I knew whither it be that man spoaken of in the news booke, taken up as one of the plot, at the aforesaid Thimbelbee's house met on tuesday night last John Fitz-James, Mathus of Wodsford, sir John Web's son of Canford, three other unknowne yong blades, well horsed, habited, and each a man waiteinge on them; yong Willowbey, the laddy Capel's butler, a notabel rogue for parts and courage, and ould Willoughby of Chetered, with blads which came from about Bemister, and, as in my last, several meetings and drinkeings at that Cashmore in, whose faces the neighbours ne'ere saw before. Every tuesday we must have a cocke match at Winburne, and the head of that game is your cuzen Litchett, which will be made a stale by wiser then himselfe, if not prevented. Divers unknowne blads frequent that cockeing game. It's neere Poole, which would be made an isle you know in a short time. Our association is broaken into Somersetshire. I hope it wil not goe beyond church matters. Wee have had lately *bellum episcopale*. I hope we shall ne're see that of *clericale*. Our ould scout T. L. is not yet returned from Blackemore, but ther's rogerie to certainty, and foe there is about Bemister. One tells me just now, col. Lawrence's house is a wicket place; if that be true, that's now whispered me, we ar here betraied: I durst not yet affirme it; and that is that at Lulworth was a barque brought in armes and powder, and foe as to the other end of the isle of Purbecke neere Corfe towne, and all landed by night. I'll ride about it myselfe. By next you shall know more, if foe. For God's sake, fyr, let's not be undun in an instant. If they ar as busy in other countys as in these parts, we ar like to have a sweet time speedily, had they armes. We hope the protector looks farther than after the debats in parliament. Excuse this troble, sent you by, fyr,

Your's faithfully.

Thus much of the cobby of the leter, mr. secretary,

Yours faithful freind to serve you,

JO. BINGHAM.

Vaux Hale, the 23d
 January, at 10 at
 neight, 1654.

Bordeaux,

Bordeaux, *the French ambassador in England, to count Brienne, secretary of state in France.*

MY LORD,

THE letter, which my exprefs brought me to day, nor the present condition of my V.xxii. p.427. negotiation do not permit me to add any thing to my foregoing letter. I have demanded this day a conference to reform some novelties, which do appear to me to be in the article, which the secretary of the council hath sent me. The one doth concern the liberty, which the English do pretend to have, not to unlade their cannon at Blaye; and in the article concerning the ratification, therein the protector is mentioned before the king; and they have qualified the treaty with the title of peace; but I make no doubt, but all these manners of speaking will be altered, when we come to speak of them.

February 4, 1655. [N. S.]

Bordeaux to cardinal Mazarin.

MY LORD,

I HAVE received by the return of my exprefs, who arrived here to day, the two let- V.xxii. p.431. ters, wherewith your eminence hath honoured me, bearing date the 27th January. My letter to mr. de Brienne will serve in answer to one of them. I will only add one thing concerning my negotiation, that the secretary of state sent me word to night, that he would come on saturday with my commissioners to finish the treaty, which was sent unto me to day, with some new clauses, upon which I do not believe here will be insisted. I will also take the liberty to tell your eminence, that I have always believed, that your opinions and judgments being most advantageous to the service of the king, and the interest of the people, would prevail above those of many persons, who under pretence of some false generosity do prefer vengeance before an accommodation. This constancy hath served for a rule to my conduct; and I hope it will be honoured by your approbation. If one do consider the condition of affairs of this country, and the quality of the minds with whom I have treated, they do seem disposed at present to unite more closely with France. And I will not fail to invite them to it, nor to speak unto them in the terms which your eminence hath prescribed. I will also omit no occasion to persuade the lord protector to restore those two ships, as soon as the agreement is perfected.

Your eminence will not yet see any bad consequence of the dissolution of the parliament, although the people here are very much troubled at it, when they think upon it, and there doth not appear any other motive of this action, than the reduction of the army.

I cannot yet get the speech of the protector. It is said, that he is agreed with the anabaptists, whom he will be forced to favour a little, since he hath distasted the presbyterians. Here is a new sect on foot, whom they call quakers. Their number is considerable throughout the provinces. They do pretend here, that it is for the advantage of the present state, that there are so many divisions in their religion, to the end that no one body should grow very considerable; and also the discourse of the lord protector doth hint, that he never fought against monarchy, but rather for liberty of conscience.

Here is no other discourse amongst the merchants than of the commerce to America, as if the fleet of England have made some conquest there already; and it is very certain, according to the relation of some come from the Barbados, that they were in expectation of the fleet there.

February 4. 1655. [N. S.]

Brienne to Bordeaux, *the French ambassador in England.*

Paris, February 5, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

I SEND you here inclosed the power, which you have sent for. It is transcribed upon V.xxii. p.463 that, which you have communicated to the commissioners deputed to enter into conference with you, and to resolve upon the conditions of the treaty. It hath only this difference, that no mention is made in it of mr. de Baas.

You may be pleased to observe all former orders mentioned in my last letters by the post, and that which I sent you by the exprefs. I will tell you sincerely, that my joy will be extraordinary, when this important business shall be determined by you, to whom all the glory will redound. I shall add nothing more at present, having not yet received your letters.

Bordeaux, *the French ambassador in England, to Chanut the French ambassador in Holland.*

MY LORD,

A. D. 1654.
V. xxi. p. 462.

IT must needs be, that the post-masters upon the road have failed to send my letter; for I never omit to write by every ordinary. It doth seem now, as if the lords here are inclined to a peace, and an end is like to be put suddenly to my negotiation; but since I have been so often deceived in my conjectures, I will not engage to secure it from some small remissions. The Lord Nieupoort came this morning to make a compliment of congratulation upon that subject, presupposing, that all was concluded; but without doubt his chief design was to learn some news of me, which I did not conceal from him. He gave me an occasion to make some reproach to him of the lord Beverning; and I found by his discourse, that you should have sent to have welcomed him home, as the other foreign ministers at the Hague did observe. An Italian would not have stood more upon a formality. My lord protector hath not observed so much on the behalf of the parliament, whom he hath fairly dismiss'd, after five months turmoil to no purpose. Many differ in opinion about this business; some suppose, that it may cause new commotions, it being very much against the humour and affections of the people here in general, who do seem to affect parliaments; and that it had been more advantageous for him to have had his lawful title from them to have settled him. Others believe it as convenient for him to dissolve them, thereby to maintain his authority. I will send you his discourse as soon as I can get it; all those that heard it, did take notice of many curious passages in it.

February 5, 1655. [N. S.]

Cardinal Mazarin to Bordeaux the French ambassador in England,

February 6, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

YOUR letter of the 28th of January doth confirm what I writ you in my foregoing of the facility, which you would find to conclude the accommodation, according to the last instructions, which were sent you; since I perceive some inclination in those, with whom you treat, to be willing to yield in the point of arbitrage. We expect to hear what you have done in pursuance of those instructions; and I am very desirous to know what col. Lyon will do in the business, since mr. Talmont doth refuse to give security for the said colonel. It is more than time, that that business was determined, that I might know what to trust to. I pray be very inquisitive into that proposition, that hath been made you of raising the like number of English.

Mr. Thomas Herbert, clerk of the council in Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

I AM commanded by my lord deputie and council, to acquaint you, that upon some notice they had from the diurnalls received by the last week's packet, that collonell William Eyre was a comploter in the late conspiracy in England; and consideration they had of his former levelling principle, they thought fitt to secure his person at his landing yesterday at Dublin. Hee is in safe custody with the sergeant at armes, untill his highnes the lord protector's pleasure be signified, how hee shall further be disposed of; which yow are desired to represent so soone as may be thought convenient. Divers, that came over with him, have been examined. Capt. Draper, one of them, faith, that hee was informed by one Penniworth a chandler in Black-friers, where coll. Eyre lodged, that a party of the horse had been in search for him there the day after his departure. I have but this from my self, that I am

Your honor's

Dublin, Jan. 27. 1654.

humble servant,

THOMAS HERBERT.

The

The examination of Nicholas Bagenall, esq; taken Jan. 27. 1654.

[Taken by secretary Thurloe.]

WHO saith, that about three or four months since, he being in Wales, had a commission delivered unto him, signed *Charles Stuart*, for a regiment of horse to consist of about 1000 horse. And being asked, who delivered the same unto him, he saith, he will not discover now who he was. And being asked, if he did not at the last time he was before his highness say, that he had it from mr. Nicholas Bailey, there being also several other persons by, saith, that he will not say what he then said, nor will now discover him to save his own life, for that he had rather die himself than be a witness against him, because he is his friend; but saith, that if his highness will promise unto him the life of the said Nicholas Bailey, he will then confess the whole matter. He being farther asked, whether the said Bailey had not another commission for himself for a regiment of foot, he saith, he can make no answer thereunto.

A. D. 1654.
V.xxii. p.449.

NICHOLAS BAGENALL.

Memorandum,

That Nicholas Bagenall, esq; being examined before his highness, concerning some commissions, which he and others had from the king, said, that he had a commission himself from the king, for a regiment of 1000 horse; and that he had that commission delivered unto him by mr. Nicholas Bailey, his kinsman; and that the said Nicholas Bailey had another commission for himself for a regiment of foot; and that he was to raise his horse in Wales, and was to rise, when the king did land in England.

V.xxii. p.451.

NICHOLAS BAGENALL.

The farther examination of Nicholas Bagenall, esq; taken Jan. 27. 1654.

[Taken by secretary Thurloe.]

WHO saith, that he being at the house of mr. Nicholas Bailey, his kinsman, in the county of Caernarvan, about August last, the said mr. Bailey did acquaint him, that there was a design for bringing in the king, meaning Charles Stuart; and that there would very speedily be an army landed from France, on the behalf of the said King; and demanded of this examinee, whether he would take a commission for raising a regiment of horse for the said king, which this examinee doth confess he promised that he would, and act as far for him as he was able, when he saw the army aforesaid landed, or had certain intelligence of the time when they would land. Whereupon the said mr. Bailey promised to procure him a commission; and said, that he had accepted of one himself to raise a regiment of foot. And farther saith, that accordingly the examinee being again at the house of the said mr. Bailey, the said mr. Bailey did deliver him a commission, signed *Charles R.* for raising a regiment of horse for the service aforesaid. And then told him, that the business would be suddenly. And being asked, where the said Bailey had the aforesaid commissions, he saith, that mr. Bailey told him, he had them of one col. Stephens, with whom the examinee spake in the country at the house of the said examinee, at which time the said Stephens was going for Ireland, concerning raising of men for Spain. And being asked, what discourse he had at that or at any other time with the said Stephens, about the aforesaid business, saith, that he met with him once or twice here in London, where Stephens told him, that the French army was suddenly to come over; and that the examinee should suddenly hear farther of it. And being asked, what other persons the said mr. Bailey did give commissions to, or did acquaint with this business, he saith, he did not tell this examinee, whether he did give any commissions to any other persons whatsoever, but told him, that he had acquainted his brother, doctor Bailey, therewith.

V.xxii. p.447.

NICHOLAS BAGENALL.

And being asked where his commission was, he said, he had it near his house in a box in the ground.

The examination of col. William Eyres, prisoner, taken Jan. 27, 1654:

A. D. 1654.
V. xxii. p. 457.

SAITH, that captain Draper and he agreed together to come out of London the 2d day of January instant; that accordingly he set forth that day towards Chester, but (as he heard afterwards) the said captain staid a week longer to have the better accommodation, for he came down in a coach with the lady Cotes to Chester, 7 days after. He farther saith, that he saw none of those, that were abroad with him, until he came to Chester or Nesson, where he took ship. And concerning Prior (once an agitator and prisoner with him about the levelling business) saith, that he hath not seen him these two months, about which time the said prisoner visited him at his lodging, at one mr. Penincoat's, in Black-friers, and well remembers, that at that time some discourse passed betwixt them relating to the old engagement at Tripplo-heath near Newmarket, to this effect, that if they (the said colonel and Prior) did not do their utmost endeavour to make good what they had here engaged, and elsewhere fought for, they could not clear themselves from king-murderers. The said examine farther saith, that he knows not whether the said Prior hath not since that time engaged himself, or acted any unwarrantable thing or no, having since that discourse with him never seen him nor heard from him; and supposes that Prior could not ground any thing of particular advice from him, other than as above-said, and such general words as this that followeth; that it was both their duties to consider, wherefore they engaged and fought against the last king and cavaliers; and whether the main cause was not for removing the arbitrary power exercised over the people by his will; and that they were bound to do their endeavour to hold forth a foundation of wholesom laws established by a legal representative for preservation of themselves and their posterity for the future; and that there might be a clear distinction 'twixt government and governor; the said colonel telling Prior withal, that the word ruler was derived from rule; and that where there was not rule, there needed no ruler; and that if the ruler went contrary to the rule, that ruler was to be cut off, going contrary to that rule, and for which the king lost his head, and without which the said col. did then declare it was impossible for a nation to be happy; withal averring, that if government did consist in persons, they had better to have been under king and lords; but at Newmarket they did declare the contrary, and abhor to center in any person or faction; or that any arbitrary power should be exercised or established, save in the people, whose right it was, and who had accordingly stood up to defend their liberty. He remembreth farther, that he then told Prior, that for his part he loved the lord protector's person, and honoured him; and that if the power must be in one single person, rather he than another; but that the best of men being subject to be corrupted, he would therefore have such a foundation of government, that in case he went contrary to that foundation, the government to cut him off, and remove him immediately; which government he should venture his life for, if he had a thousand lives; and other words to that effect, being of one opinion as to that principle. This examine farther remembreth, that at the same time this discourse passed betwixt them, he, this examine, shewed the said Prior a paper, which this examine by chance found, and took about 7 days before near the Wardrobe in Black-friers, which the said Prior made a shift to read. It was an exhortation for the officers and soldiers, and others of the army, to do their best to own what they had first fought for, against king and cavalier, and to oppose all that should stand against that freedom, and to endeavour to free them from all slavery and oppression whatsoever. He this examine farther declareth, that according to his principle he feareth not, nor forbeareth in all places and times to declare his judgment, but denieth, that he hath acted any thing either against the lord protector or the government. Being demanded, why he returned unto Ireland at this time, this examine saith, that it was to obey an order of the court of claims in Dublin, which required his personal being there upon the first of February ensuing; and desires that the lord deputy and council would not let his restraint prejudice him in his trial about his interest in Shelelagh-woods, but that he may have the liberty to instruct council in the case; and another was, that at Nesson, hearing captain Draper report, that a party was to seek for him at his lodging in Black-friers, the night after he took horse for Chester, he did say, he believed he should be confined at his coming to Dublin, upon such a report; and that if his suit would suffer it, he could have returned to London, to answer what could be charged upon him. And farther saith not.

Taken before

THOMAS HERBERT, clerk of the council [of Ireland.]

Nicholas

Nicholas Bayly's confession to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

I MUST acknowledg, that I had often discours'd with mr. Bagenall concerning the A. D. 1654.
king of Scots, and about the begining of October last, as I remember, he being att
my hous, we tooke an ocaſion to ſpeake to him, and to expreſs much readineſs to ſerve
him. Wee alſoe wiſhed, that if any ſuch thing were deſigned, wee might not be unacquainted
with it; and alſoe promiſed, that he that firſt ſhould come to know any ſuch thing, ſhould
emediately informe the others. Within a little tyme after, ſome privat ocaſion of my
owne calling me to London, as I was one morning walking in Graiſ-inn-walkes, I hapned to
fall into diſcourſe with a gentleman, that I never ſaw before, in whos converſ I found that
ſatiſfaction, that I expreſt a deſier of a further acquaintance with him, nor did he decline
it, but made me a retourne of much civillity, which drew on a promiſe of meeting the next
day, which accordingly wee did in the Mitter taverne neer Temple barr, wher we weer not
long together, as ſtrangers, but being men of the ſame principles, wee quickly knitt a
friendſhipp, wher before wee parted, he told me, that he had heard my name before
mentioned by a friend of his, that gave a careſter of me, that agreed with his owne
judgment; and that if I would meet him on the friday following, I ſhould ſee the confidence
he had in me; and if I weer one that did entend what I profeſt, he would ſhew me an ocaſion,
that would be offered to ſhew my loyalty. To which I answered, that I would not faile
to wayte on him, if he would be pleaſed to name the place. He told me, he would not
goe often to the ſame place, becauſe he would not, that any ſhould obſerve him. Wher-
upon we apointed to meet att the Caſtle taverne in the Strand on the monday following,
by one of the clock, wher we mett, and had not ſatt long, but he drawes out a paper, and
tells me, that the ſight of that was the thing, that he intended to entrust me withall,
which he ſayd he would not ſhew to any thing that he thought was not a gentleman
and a very honeſt man. Wherupon he ſhewed me a letter; uppon the topp whereof was
written C. R. the contents whereof were, that he ſhould be carefull of his buſineſs, and very
wary, who he engaged; and that he ſhould be ſhure they were honeſt men; and that by the
next he ſhould receive further inſtructions. This with his owne expreſſions gave me ocaſion
to beleve, that he was imployed; and from that tyme I tooke him for an agent. He then
aſked me, if I intended to act, what comiſſion I expected. I told him for a regiment
of foote; and if he would procure me a comiſſion to be governor of Denby caſtle, I did
not dout but to give a good account of it; to which he answered, that I ſhould find him
walking in the piazza at three a clocke the next day, wher I ſhould receive the aforeſayd
comiſſions from him. I alſoe told him, that I knew a gentleman, that would engage, of
a good family and fortune, if he had comiſſion for a regiment of horſe (which he both did
and might well expect) and were aſſured, that the deſine were well layd, and perſons
of honor and credit were concerned in it. To which he answered, that I ſhould alſoe have
a comiſſion for him, and alſoe aſked his name. I told him he was a very honeſt gentle-
man, to which he replied he had truſted me, and that I need not be cautious of him; upon
which I gave him his name, which ſeemed to pleaſe him well, as if he had heard of him
before. He told me alſoe, we ſhould not want ſeconds; and that the deſine was ſoe layd,
that nothing could ruin it but diſcovery. I then told him, that I was to goe out of towne
within a day or two, and deſierd that I might hear more from him, which he promiſed I
ſhould; and alſoe told me, that he beleevd wee ſhould be in action ſhortly. Soe we parted
and next day mett according to promiſe, wher he delivered me the aforeſayd comiſſions.
I forgott to inſert, that at our firſt meeting he told me his name was Thomas Hart, and
att this laſt meeting I enquired of him, wher his lodging was, but found him ſomewhat
ſhie, and preſſed him noe further; and often aſked him who thoſe friends were, that ſhould
ſecond us, and his anſwer was, that I muſt pardon him; for it was ſoe ordered, that not
above tow ſhould ſpeake together att a tyme, nor any of thoſe tow ſhould ſpeak to the
other of any other perſon, that was intereſſed in the buſineſs; whereby if it ſhould ſoe
happen, that if any of thoſe tow were diſcoverd, that they ſhould not be able to enforme
of the reſt. Which is the cauſe, that I can give noe further light in this buſineſs. About
a fortnight after my coming home he writ to me to ſtir very litle in that buſineſs
I knew of, for it was put of for three months; neither did I impart it to any perſon but
mr. Bagenall and my brother, nether did I ever hear from him ſince. He alſoe in that
letter mentioned, that he was to goe into France. If what I have ſed may deſerve your
highneſſe's mercy, I ever ſhall make it my ſtudy to deſerve it, and with much willingneſs
ſacrifice my life in your ſervice, as an argument of my gratitude.

NICHOLAS BAYLY.

Jan. 28, 1654.

Mr.

Mr. W. Wray to Gilbert Mabbot, esq;

SIR,

A. D. 1654.
V.xxii. p.461.

SINCE my last to you, I have discovered a plott, that was to surprize both these gar-
risons, which if I had not been carefull in preventing, by lyeing in the castle myfelfe,
it would have beene effected ere this; therefore you may consider in what condition wee are
in for want of a recruite of amunition. I shall once more intreate your care in hastening me
an order for the same. I ad no more, but that I am, Sir,

Beaumaris, Jan. 28, 1654.

Your assured freind and servant,

WILLIAM WRAY.

I shall desire you to excuse me foe often troubling of you. Hee that was to surprize mee
is secured in London, one mr. Nicholas Bagenall. If you would procure mee an order, I
would * * * endeavour to secure more of them, whom I very much suspect, as alsoe
armes and amunition. Let the charge you are at by my letters be putt to my account,

W. W.

The superscription,

*To his bonnored freind,
Gilbert Mabbot, esq;
these, Ax Yard in
King-street, London.*

Bordeaux, the French embassador in England, to Brienne.

MY LORD,

V.xxii. p.477.

IHAD not till this night conference with my commissioners, who are agreed to
change some expressions, but not as to the proposition, which I made unto them of
assisting the enemies and rebels of each other. And their denial hath no other ground,
than that the present treaty doth only regard the recalling of letters of marque. That it
will be time enough to adjust the said article, when a nearer union shall be made. That
in the mean time the present intention of the lord protector is, not to give any assistance
to our enemies. I did not think fit to make a new obstacle by insisting upon that clause; nor
also upon the restitution of our forts, whereof the demand is reserved under the term of damages
sustained; and having brought all these facilities for a compliance, I thought I should have an
end of my negotiation; yet notwithstanding there hath been some reformation found to be
made in the secret article, which the said commissioners would not agree unto, till they
have made report, and they have received the demand of the payment of the debts con-
tracted by de Cezi and de Marcheville, they would not be satisfied with any verbal assurance,
that I was able to give them; pretending that I should oblige myself in writing for the
payment of that debt here in a short time. And after some sharp words, which had passed
between us, in regard they made unto me more pressing propositions than the interested, whom
I had persuaded to stay six weeks after the conclusion of the general treaty before any treaty
should be had with them, in the end we parted without resolving upon any thing, they alledg-
ing they had not power to change any thing; nor I believing that I ought to promise the pay-
ment so presently. I will send to morrow for the creditors to find some provifo, if they be
not excited by the heir of Grefne and Auger, I may bring them to reason, whose cousin is
here lately arrived; but he doth excuse himself from coming to see me, till the protector
hath given him leave.

Feb. 8, 1655. [N. S.]

Bordeaux to Brienne.

MY LORD,

V.xxii. p.483.

MY foregoing letter did inform your lordship of the state of my negotiation. There
hath happened no alteration in it since; and as well my commissioners, as the secre-
tary of state, to whom I sent to day, do affect to declare, that the protector will sooner
break than yield to the two conditions, which do make the stop at present, without
giving any other reasons, than that the one is new, and that the other is understood by
the cessation of arms. I must confes, I have always been inclined to endeavour an ac-
commodation;

commodation; but however my inclination now will carry me to be more backward in seeking it than I have been; and the occasion of all these small difficulties doth proceed from the advice which is given them here from France, that I have order to sign the treaty as it should be presented unto me. Here is a very great calm again. The conspiracy is now blown over. The four last prisoners are sent to several castles.

Feb. 8, 1655. [N. S.]

Bordeaux to cardinal Mazarin.

MY LORD,

I WILL add nothing to the duplicate of my letter to monsr. de Brienne concerning the affairs; only I will conform my self to your eminence's order. I continue to treat with another colonel, for fear colonel Lyon should not find caution at Paris, whither he is gone for that purpose. I am to have a last answer from him whom I am now in hand with to morrow morning, whether he be able to raise 2000 Scots. My treaty is deferred from being determined for some short time.

Feb. 8, 1655. [N. S.]

An intercepted letter.

GENT.

WEE presume you mind all those interests deare unto you so much, that now in this nick of time, when good effects are expected by your agents, sir Robert Talbott, mr. Seagraves, and mr. Patricke Bryan's negotiation in London, you will not be wanting to their supplies. There is a levy for them in these counties, and wee have already found some fruits of there labours by the tolleration hitherto; and it were fatal should there endeavours be retarded, and for want of supplies to sett on the worke. Wee have discoursed more particularly of this with the bearer mr. Dowling; and pray you will bestir yourselves so far, as to gett the sume of tenn pounds amongst yourselves, and let it be sent with all speed to mr. Christ. Cusacke of Ratharlan, from whom from time to time you will know there proceedings. So wee rest

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

Your assured freinds to serve you,

Dublyn, Jan. 29, 1654.

PA. NETTERVILLE,
LAW. DOWDALL,
JOHN BELLEW.

For Ferald John Ferald and
Faghan Ferald of the county
of Longford, esq;

The examination of sir Henry Lyttelton, taken this 29th of Jan. 1654. in the Tower.

[By secretary Thurloe.]

WHO faith, that he being named high sheriff for the county of Worcester by his highness the lord protector, did give directions unto his brother, mr. Charles Lyttelton, to buy him forty pair of pistols for his men to ride with, he intending to have so many liveries to attend him at the assizes; and that his brother did buy for him accordingly 40 pair of pistols with holsters, and sent them down to him, in two boxes, by Rose, carrier of Bromsgrove; which he faith was about 5 weeks since. And being asked, what he paid for those pistols, and of whom his brother had them, as to the first, he faith, that he doth not well know what they cost, but gave directions to his brother to buy pistols of about 20 s. a pair, and believes they cost about that price; and faith, he did give directions to his brother, to take money of one mr. Lloyd, living in Drury-lane (who had 50 l. of his in his hands, which he had returned to him from Worcester) to pay for them with, and believes, that his said brother had 30 l. of him for that purpose; but how much he laid out of it, he cannot tell, neither did he ever ask an account of him, although his brother was returned from London to his house, and had been with him some days. And as to the other question, of whom his said brother bought the pistols, he faith he knows not, nor did his brother ever acquaint him; and being asked, whether he did tell him, that he had them of major Norwood, he faith, he did not; and faith, that it might be a fortnight between his giving directions for buying the pistols, and sending them down.

A. D. 1654. down. And being asked, whether he did not write to his brother to take the pistols of major Norwood, he saith, he did not, nor had ever any discourse about him. He saith, that he knows the said Norwood, and hath sometimes met him, and spake with him, but never spake with him about the king of Scots, or any of his affairs; and saith, that he spake with him a while after the said Norwood was apprehended the last summer, and set at liberty again, when he met him at the examine's mother's house in St. Martin's lane; and saith, that he doth not remember he ever spake with the said Norwood since. And being asked, whether the soldiers, that seized him, did not search for arms, and whether he did not deny to have any arms in his house, he confesseth they did, and that he did deny the arms; and that the soldiers were told, that pewter and brasse were brought in the boxes, wherein the pistols were brought; and the reason thereof he saith was, because he feared the soldiers would have offered some violence, in case they had found arms in his house; but saith, the pistols were not very diligently hid, for they were within a place in his study, easy enough to be seen. And the examine doth deny, that he had or hath any knowledge of any design for the king of Scots; or that he intended to make any use of the said pistols than as aforesaid. And being asked, what money he sent by his brother to London, when he came up as aforesaid, he saith, he sent none at all by him.

H. LYTTTELTON.

The examination of major Henry Norwood, taken this 29th of Jan. 1654.

[Taken by secretary Thurloe.]

V.xxii.p.489. SAITH, that he did provide 40 pair of pistols and holsters for mr. Charles Lyttelton, and at his direction, which was about 6 weeks before he was committed to the tower, as far as he remembers; and also 29 saddles of leather near about a colour, which saddles he this examine bought of a saddler in Fleet-street at the sign of the Angel, whose name is Chevall, of whom he bought 20 more, which yet remain with him in his shop, for ought he knows; and the pistols he bought of one living at the Cross Guns in Covent Garden, named Shelton; that the arms and saddles were provided at the desire of the said Charles Lyttelton for his brother for his sheriffalty, as the said Charles told him. He saith also, he sent unto him 20 carbines at the same time, which he the said Charles did not bespeak, but he sent them of his own accord. He saith, the things aforesaid were sent from an inn in St. Giles's, and were directed upon the backside by one mr. Lloyd.

And he being asked, what the name of the person was, which he called by the name of Tomlyns, and that met him at Crone's the vintner with Custis and Glover, he saith, he knows not that he hath any other name than Tomlyns. And saith, that the person now produced and shewed unto him is that person; and that he doth not know that his name is mr. Rowland Thomas, but saith, it was he that had or was to have the 50 l. of mr. Custis for 50 l. in silver.

And being asked, whether he knew sir John Packington of Worcestershire, he saith, he did, and should have sent him a cask of wine into the country, and have gone to his house to have hunted with him; but saith he did not, but denies that he sent him any arms.

And being asked, when he saw sir Henry Lyttelton, he says, he thinks he saw him and spake with him the last term; but saith, he had no discourse with him about the king's affairs.

H. NORWOOD.

General Monck to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

V.xxii.p.491. I Received your letter of the 23d of January, and I hope now wee shall have busines settled, that wee come not on free quarter either in England or Scotland. Truly we are fifteene weekes pay behinde yesterday, and of the 20,000 l. coming to us, there must 15000 l. goe to cleere us off till yesterday. Soe that we shall have but 5000 l. and fifteene weekes paye due; and without a speedy course for supplying the wants of the foldior, wee shall bee in an ill condition: but I hope now it will bee prevented. Heere is litle newes, but that col. Brayne, coming to me on some extraordinary busines, and captain Nicholls with him, had the ill happ to bee taken in the hills by Mac Naughton and his party; but I hope to gett them releas'd upon the lord Lorne's capitulation for his coming in. There's noe body (I heare of) troubled at the disolveing of the parlement; but the privat foldiors are now in hopes to gett some money. I am, sir, your most affectionat and humble servant,

Dalkeith, Jan. 30, 1654.

GEORGE MONCK.

A letter

*A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.*Paris the { 10 Feb. } 1654.
 { 31 Jan. }

THE king continuing the pastime of this season, has danced and caused the repetition of a masque named the recreations of the countries. V.xxii.p.577;

His majesty has newly caused the departure of the companies of his guards, namely, 10 French and 10 Swissers, to go to Picardy, to join a body, which is framed there on purpose to cast a great convoy in Quesnoy, which the enemies seem to put themselves in posture to hinder; the count of Bucqoy, governor of Haynault, assembling troops to that purpose. He is not thought able to hinder it, and I hear, that the mareschal of Turenne will part from hence within two days to go and lead the said convoy, and fight the enemies, in case they appear.

Sunday last there arrived in this city an extraordinary post from Rome, dispatched from mr. Lionne, the king's embassador in that court, who informs us, that the cardinals shut themselves up in the conclave the 17 Jan. that the said mr. Lionne arrived there the 21 of the same, and the next day received audience of the college of the said cardinals through the window of the said conclave. That the 27, which was the day of the said post's departure, there was no pope elected; and that the cardinals most spoken of as to the succession of that place were, the cardinal Carpegna, Fiorenzola, Brancassio, and Rapaccioli; and that it was thought the said conclave would last long.

The circular letters written by the cardinal of Retz unto the bishops of this kingdom hath been declared injurious unto the king, tending unto the perturbation of the publick peace; and as such, hath been burnt by the hangman's hands, according to the here annexed print I send you. The bishop of Laugres is dead; and it's thought his archbishoprick, which is one of the ecclesiastical peer-duchies, will be given unto the abbot de la Riviere, according unto the promise he had thereof from this court, that he should be put into the first empty one.

The wedding of mareschal de la Meilleraye's son with one of the cardinal's nieces is quite overthrown. It's said the king intends shortly to Lyons.

*Colonel Anselme's letter in defence of himself, with regard to the late rising, to
for Oliver Fleming.*

SIR OLIVER,

Y Eſterday I had this letter delivered to me, but by reason of an extreem cold, I went to bed, not thinking of it, till this morning, and when I founde this durty paper so foull of mallis as it is, I thought good to communicat it to you, as knowing you to be a person, that really loves and honnores his hines. If I may have any derexſiones from you, what I shall doe in this, I shall ſolo them; otherwaies I am resolved, if any body comes to speke with me about it, to ſeſe one them for afronte they have don me to thinke me so much a ſoul or a knave, as to medell with any of thar treaſones, which loukes after nothing but the rowen of my contre. Pray lett me receve your commands, if I may be ſarvifable in this or any thing eles, and I doe aſhour you, it shall be punctually obaed by,

Honored ſir,

At your lodginge this
ſonday morning.

Your reall and faithfull ſarvant,

WILLIAM ANSELME.

You shall allwayes here of me
at Dorſet-hous, and when
you will command me, I
shall wate one you.

To colonel Anſelm.

MOST WORTHY COLONEL,

IT is a greate joye to many thousands of your well affected cuntrye men, to ſee your ſafe arrivall here in England, after ſoe manie gallant ſerviſes done for the kinge of Spaine to your eternall honour, and our natetion. Although you had beene hardly uſed by the miniſters of Spaine ſince the death of your deere generall Beck, yett it is a great mercie of God, that
you

A. D. 1654. you are here at this time, wherein you may see well serve your counterie, as wee raieally belive you will, which will be a great adition to your honor, to free your countrey from the great tyrinany, which it is nowe in, as this declaracion will informe you at lardge. In short you are choiese to be one of the chiffe commaunders, and in finale tyme there wil be forthy thousand in armes to justifie our undertakeings. Wee conjure you, by all that is good, and as you love your life, to be secret, and you shall feind the benefitt thereof. You shall be spoake withall vereie suddenly from

Your faithfull freinds and countremen,

4000

1000

1000

2000

The superscription,

For the right honorable coronell William Anfelme, master de campo, and one of the counsell of warr to his masties the king of Spaine, these, at Dorset-house in Salisbury-courte.

A catalogue of the names of the members of the last parliament, whereof those marked with a starre were for the godly learned ministry and universities.

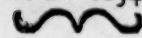
V.xxiii p.271.

Berks.	Francis Langdon	Southampton.
* Samuel Dunch	* Anthony Rous	* Richard Norton
Vincent Goddard	John Bawden.	* Richard Major
* Thomas Wood.	Derby.	* John Hildesley.
Bedford.	* Jervas Bennet	Hertfort.
Nathaniel Taylor	* Nathaniel Barton.	* John Lawrence
Edward Cater.	Devon.	William Reeve.
Buckingham.	* George Monk, one of the generals at sea	Hereford.
* George Fleetwood	John Carew	Wroth Rogers
* George Baldwin.	* Thomas Sanders	John Herring.
Cambridge.	* Christopher Martin	Huntington.
* John Sadler	* James Erisey	* Edward Montague
Thomas French	* Francis Rous	* Stephen Phefaunt.
* Robert Castle	Richard Sweet.	
* Samuel Warner.	Dorset.	Kent.
Chester.	* William Sydenham	* Lord Viscount Lisle
* Robert Duckenfield	* John Bingham.	Thomas Blount
Henry Birkenhead.	Effex.	William Kenrick
Four northern counties.	* Joachim Matthews	* William Cullen
* Charles Howard	Henry Barrington	Andrew Broughton.
* Robert Fenwick	* John Brewster	Lancaster.
* Henry Dawson	Christopher Earl	William West
* Henry Ogle.	* Dudley Templer.	John Sawrey
Cornwall.	Gloucester.	* Robert Cunliff
Robert Bennet	John Crofts	Leicester.
	* William Neast	Henry Danvers
	Robert Holmes.	* Edward

JOHN THURLOE ESQ. &c.

133

A. D. 1654.



- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| * Edward Smith | Stafford. | * Francis Laffels |
| * John Prat. | | John Anlaby |
| | George Bellot | * Thomas Dickenfon |
| Lincoln. | John Chetwood. | Thomas St. Nicholas |
| | | Roger Coats |
| * Sir William Brownlow | Suffolk. | * Edward Gill. |
| Richard Cuft | | |
| * Barnaby Bowtel | Jacob Caley | |
| * Humphry Walcot | * Francis Brewfter | London. |
| * William Thompfon. | Robert Duntron | |
| | * John Clark | * Robert Tichborn |
| Middlefex. | Edward Plumstead. | John Ireton |
| | | Samuel Moyer |
| * Sir William Roberts | Somerfet. | * John Langley |
| * Auguftine Wingfield | | * John Stone |
| Arthur Squib. | * Robert Blake, one of the | * Henry Barton |
| | Generals at fea. | Praife God Barbone. |
| Monmouth. | John Pyne | |
| | Dennis Hollifter | |
| * Philip Jones. | * Henry Henley. | Wales. |
| | | |
| Northampton. | Surrey. | Bufhy Manfel |
| | | * James Philips |
| * Sir Gilbert Pickering | Samuel Higland | John Williams |
| * Thomas Brook. | Lawrence March. | Hugh Courtney |
| | | Richard Price |
| Norfolk. | Suffex. | John Brown |
| | | |
| Robert Jermy | Anthony Stapley | Scotland. |
| * Tobias Frere | William Spence | |
| * Ralph Wolmer | Nathaniel Studeley. | Sir James Hope |
| * Henry King | | * Alexander Bredy |
| William Burton. | Warwick. | John Swinton |
| | | * William Lockart |
| Notingham. | * John St. Nicholas | Alexander Jeffries. |
| | * Richard Lucy. | |
| * John Oddinfels | | |
| * Edward Clud | Wilts. | |
| | | Ireland. |
| Oxon. | * Sir Anth. Afhley Cooper | |
| | Nicholas Green | * Sir Robert King |
| * Sir Charles Worfley | Thomas Eyre. | * Colonel John Hewfon |
| William Draper | | * Colonel Henry Cromwell |
| * Dr. Jonathan Goddard. | Worcefter. | * Colonel John Clark |
| | | * Daniel Hutchinfon |
| Rutland. | * Richard Salway | * Vincent Gookyn |
| | John James. | * Lord General |
| * Edward Horfman. | | * Major General Lambert |
| | York. | Major General Harrifon |
| Salop. | | * Major General Defborow |
| | * George Lord Eure | * Colonel Matthew Tom- |
| William Bottrel | * Walter Strickland | linfon. |
| Thomas Baker. | | |

L O N D O N :

Printed by A. M. 1654.

William Tomson to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

A. D. 1654.
V. xxiii. p. 75.

IT is the most unfortunate and strange rancounter I have in the passage of my life mett with, that after so manie addressees, as I have made to your highnes, and so long time as I have waieted, it haeth not yet pleased you to let mee hear from you eather by waie of incouragement to serve your highnes, or by waie of command not further to truble you; in boeth which your highnes should have found mee punctuallye obedient. I am verie censible of your highnes great imployment is accompined with manie and great trubles; and that you are not wanting of persons boeth for ablenes and trust fitt to manage all your highnes great and honorable undertakeings, without taking notice of what may bee presented to you by anie, who have heartofore ingaged against the parliament. Yet when I call to minde, that so soone as I understood your highnes had desolved the long parliament, and that the goverment in England began to looke monarchall under your command, I imediately gave your highnes an account of the Scotch king's intentions to remove from France 8 moenthes before hee departed; and also intimated to your highnes the earnest indevours, that wear used to widne the differenses betwixt you and the Dutch, and draw them to have taken the king of Scot's part against you; and that I also at that tyme gave your highnes reasons, what daneger thear was in continuinge the warr with Holland, and the little fear thear was, as the present condition of affaires then stood in France, to suspect daneger from them, or haefne any tretie of peace with them, that might bee disadvantageous to you. I likewise hinted some other things of confernement to your highnes, which I will not now mention; all which considered, I looke uppon myselfe as not to have donn your highnes anie ill office, since God haeth giveen to you, and you accepted the goverment of thes dominions; but on the contrarie, have indevoured to serve your highnes to such a height, as if I might have refaved your command and incurragement. I am confident, that before this tyme I might have doon you some service, for which I might have deserved your highnes good opinion.

I will not in this longer truble your highnes, then whilest I acquainte you, that if you please to send for sir Jarvise Lucas, who lodges at captaine Busshel's, hee will informe you some thinges not so fitt for me to mention in writing. I moest humbly beseech your highnes, this may bee managed with all possible secrefie, in regard I have named a gentleman of whose reputation I desire to bee verie carefull, beinge confident your highnes will uppon discourse with him finde him to bee what reallye I am, which is, your highnes moest dutifull and obedient subject and servant,

WILL. TOMSON.

Callis, Feb. 10, 1654. [N. S.]

Bordeaux, the French embassador in England, to Cardinal Mazarin.

MY LORD,

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

THE two letters, wherewith your eminence hath been pleased to honour me, do not give me any subject to add any thing concerning my negotiation to the duplicate of the letter of monsr. de Brienne, but only to satisfy your commands touching the levies of the Scots soldiers. And in order thereunto I have spoken with the colonel, who hath propounded to me to raise so many men upon the same terms, as col. Lyon offered to perform; but he could not give me his positive answer till such time as he had spoken with the lord protector, to inform himself, whether he would obtain leave of him to transport them, which in all likelihood will not be denied him. I will use my utmost endeavours to dispatch this business, to prevent all inconveniencies, which may happen by having of it delay'd. I cannot yet get the speech of the lord protector, which he made at the dissolution of the parliament, the fear of an answer having hindred the publication. However some have put forth a book to cry down his authority; but it is to little purpose.

Feb. 11, 1655. [N. S.]

Bordeaux,

Bordeaux, *the French ambassador in England, to Brienne.*

MY LORD,

I HAD hoped, that this letter would have signified unto you the signing of the treaty, since I was agreed with my commissioners at the last conference of all that was to be reformed in the 6 articles; and that I had given a memorandum of all those, whose removal hence might be desired, reducing the secret article to the terms formerly agreed on; but yesterday they signified unto me, that the lord protector would not change the word—nor consent—whereof there was formerly no demand made; and that which appeareth more extraordinary, he doth refuse at the same time—whereof the most part are out of England, but are come over hither since my abode here, and are interested in the affairs of the prince, here being at present only Barriere on his behalf and two tradesmen of the pretended commissioners of Bordeaux, who do not deserve to be named in the treaty. I sent this morning to my commissioners to complain upon their refusing to sign, as we had agreed; and that there ought not any change or alteration to be made.

A. D. 1654.
V. xxii. p. 5814

Here is nothing past touching the government since my last, only there doth appear some discontent amongst the people.

The governor of the forts of Canada hath been here for some time. I press'd him to go into France to give an account thereof, but he maketh no great haste.

February 11, 1655. [N. S.]

Bordeaux *to his father.*

MY LORD,

I HOPE you are now in a condition to hear the discourse of affairs. Those of my negotiation you will know by the letter, which I writ to Mr. de Brienne; only I will add, that since the beginning of the treaty I have not indured any thing with so much impatience as the last proceeding of this state; and that to avoid a reply capable to undo the whole work that is past, I have deferred it till to morrow, to the end my just anger may be over, which their way of acting so unjustly and so full of scorn hath occasioned, at a time when one might expect men would act fairly and honestly. I do not doubt, but my lords the ministers, who do believe the lord protector to be altogether disposed to live quietly with France, are also surprized and troubled to penetrate into the motives of this variation, which cannot be grounded but upon a confidence, that since we have yielded so much as we have done to come to an agreement, we will not lose our advances, but rather submit to their desires, though never so unreasonable.

V. xxii. p. 589.

February 11, 1655. [N. S.]

Bordeaux *to the marechal d'Aumont at Boulogne.*

MY LORD,

IF the pamphlets both of Paris and London may be credited, my negotiation is already concluded, and I confess there doth not want much; but till the signing inclusively be past, one must still apprehend some revolution in a country more subject to change and alteration, than any other in the world that is known. But I hope the next post may bring some assurance. There hath happened nothing considerable since the dissolution of the parliament, which it was thought would have caused some commotion here; but all is quiet, and only their tongues are the weapons of those, that are angry. Some believe, that men shall see a government of iron; that the royalists shall be persecuted, and the anabaptists elevated, and a great severity used against all assemblies and publick pleasures; but as for the common sort, they are not like to suffer much. The report is here also of a great war, that is between this country and Spain in America. That the protector hath desired to borrow two millions of the good commonwealth of Genoa, whose accommodation with Spain is not yet perfected, as was reported.

V. xxii. p. 584.

February 11, 1655. [N. S.]

Fleetwood,

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

A. D. 1654.
V. xxiii. p. 13.

I HAVE of late times spent some oportunities extraordinary to debate the busines of the government, and therein to argue the two interests, wherein all people are concerned, how well they are secured by the instrument of government, I meane our civill and religious liberties; and this thorough mercy hath bine with very good successe; but indeed you would wonder what a great rejoyceing my lord protector's last speech hath given to the harts of good men, and seeme strangely to be more satisfied now then formerly; and on the contrary, evill men are very much dejected and disappointed in the late dissolution. That large principle, which my lord protector is blessed with, is that, which I am perswaded will owne him in and carry him through all difficulties; and let men say what they will, that principle will be uppermost at last. That designe, which was lately in England, was likewise heere, and great consultations our old enemy had and are yet carying on, which made me, that I have stayed 4 companies of the 3000, wee haveing so few forces heere, untill his highnes pleasure be knowne whether they shall come, for indeed wee are thinly mann'd at present in our garrisons. I have taken lieutenant general's parole, in pursuance of his highnes order by Cornet Bradly, whereby he hath engaged to attend his highnes by the 10 of March, and faith, he intends to live in Sommerfetshire with a sister-in-law, to avoyd jealousies and temptations. I doe rely on your care, that no person be added to the councill heere before I be first heard therein. I detaine Cornet Bradley on purpose till next weeke, to impart some things of publicque concerns to you. I am

Your humble servant,

Feb. 2, 1654.

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

A vindication against the complaints of mr. Rogers, address'd to Edward Dandy, esq;

Lambeth, Feb. 3, 1654.

SIR,

V. xlvii. p. 23.

IN anfwere to yours aboute the unjust complaynt of mr. Rogers, wee retorne these lines, being part of our just vindication in brieve, and remayne ready to enlarge verbally:

First to his charge, that drunkards and swearers intrude into his chamber, and sit by his fire, wee know of none but mr. Spittlehouse (of late a champion creature of mr. Rogers) though now at defiance, fate in his chamber, as being use to it; but for swearing and drunkenesse, let Spittlehouse cleere himselfe. The whole house can witnesse us cleere from those extravagancies.

Wee were never in his chamber but at his publicque speaking, except once, when some 3 weekes agoe he challenged and sent for us 5 or 6 times, as being galled by a relation sent him from us, occasioned by his abuses offred, wherein wee discovered, that wee would not have him thinke us foe ignorant, but that wee discerned out of what box hee juggled, by his and his societie's proceedings, in publishing sedition, treason, rebellion, and therein included herefie.

For though wee hated informing, yet not being satisfied, if to conceale treason were not treason, wee shewed our dislike thereof to your officers; adding moreover, that his highnesse had but bad servants, if he were not acquainted with these odious proceedings, which to us are very strange, that a handfull of Scum, the very raf of Billingsgate, Redriffe, Ratliffe, Wappen, &c. shall ayme at the destruction of this government, as being by mr. Rogers encouraged, animated, instigated and seduced, not in any misticall expressions, but in plaine words, viz.

That 'twill bee all their owne very shortly, and the greate man at Whitehall must suddently be confounded and destroyed, averring with the most of ugly expressions and confidence, that they are the saints that must shortly injoy and possesse the glory of the earth, and all men being either saints or devills, whosoever is not of their mind are devills, they being the saints.

That the Antichrist, the Babilon, the greate dragon, or the man of sin, Oliver Cromwell at Whitehall, must be puld downe, with much such like fantastique stufte.

One of them speaking or preaching in mr. Rogers's chamber, had theis wordes, that wee did not live in an age to expect miracles; that Babilon cannot bee destroyed, nor the sainte at Windsor bee released by only faith and prayer; but you must bee of courage, and make use of materiall instruments, and proceed by force, per example (said hee) if this house of Lambeth were to bee pulled downe, you must make use of materialls, and not expect 'twill ever fall by faith or prayer.

I

Another

Another tyme prayeing thus, Lord, when wilt thou trample under feete him, that hath stolne the government into his handes? A. D. 1654.

Another time prayeing; Lord, when wilt thou free thy faints from the feare of men? when shall they by force redeem the captives of the Lord in Windsor, this place, &c. and, as I apprehended, one faint at Maydstone by name was exprest.

Wee adde to this his intentions to raise seditions, treason, rebellion, and heresy, as by witneses here can attest, that mr. Rogers did read a letter openly to his auditors, which hee said came from mr. Powell from Wales, who did assure him of twenty thousand faints there ready to hazard their blood in defence of their cause.

Thus much for present vindication forced from us by mr. Rogers his asperitions (occasioned by the aforesaid relation sent him) the heads or chief contents thereof, which soe much disturbed him, and which wee from the premises and other evidences concluded, which were;

That hee had undeceived us from supposing his way a blind zeale by his frequent blood thirsty expressions.

That his chiefe ayme was carnall in striking at the head of the government, that hee (as counting himselfe the chiefe of faintes) might attaine to the height of temporall preferments.

That hee was uncharitable, damneing and curseing all others not of his opinion.

That his hocus was to seduce the scilley multitude, and juggle their meanes into his pocket, appeared by the continuall gatherings at home and abroad (which wee thinke, is one chiefe reason, why those Journymen, that factiously joyne with him, doe follow his steps in exclaiming against the government) that they might procure to themselves such like profitts, and why wee judged him a perfect hypocrite, was then related.

Wee shall conclude (being all passages would take up many sheetes) with mr. Rogers relation to his auditors, the occasion why colonell Overton was secured; whereby you may judge what edification hee hath for his society (the whole designe being to turne and wind state proceedings by his commenting to their fond science, saying 'twas not only for a private meeting with some of the faintes in the countrey, and proceeding charged the lord protector for injustice in that.

And finally take notice of his selfe-made himnes read by him, and publicquely sung by him and his society for divine service. This one verse for patterne.

For God begins to honour us,
The faintes are marching on;
The sword is sharpe, the arrows swift,
To destroy Babylon.
Against the kingdome of the beast,
Wee witneses doe rise, &c.

This and much more you shall not only (if needfull) have hands for, but from us and others.

A10.

Sir Robert Stone to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

THIS inclosed is com now to my hands. I am confident you will finde hee Vol. xxiii. that writ it, hath taken up the name of Wright; by which you may finde by p. 101. Moris in the towne of Dover, as they wrighte he is the said Moris: hath been here lateley; but I sawe him not. Hee hath beene from me $\frac{2}{3}$ yeares, and serves one of that caball with Norwode and the Litiltens nowe in howld, a gent. to the princes royall; which is all I shall trouble you with att present; only that I am

Feb. 5, 1654.

Your very humble servant,

ROBERT STONE.

Inclos'd in the preceding. Nicholas Armourer to sir Robert Stone.

Dover Castell 14th.

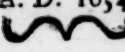
SIR ROBERT STONE,

KINDE saluts. I had the convenience of a passage from Dunkirke in the same V. xxiii. p. 93. boate with your man Mauris, but heere wee founde a restraint upon all the passengers by order from his highness the lord protector: by this meanes your servant is made prisoner

Vol. III.

N n

in

A. D. 1654.  in the towne of Dover, and I in the castell, till wee can send to our frinds, that the officer that commandes heare may have ane order from above to give us our freedome. I beseech you doe mee the favour to prevaile with some of your frinds neare his highnes the lord protector, to gett mee leave either to come to London, or to returne backe to Rotterdam. I know you know me so well that I ingage . . . I may bee free to gett my owne livelihood abroad or at home. I know you will not forgett your frindes in trouble, that makes mee now give you this. I pray be pleased to present my dewty to my mother, from her dewtyfull, and,

Worthy sir, your humble servant,

N. WRIGHT.

Pray direct your letter to mr. Robert Day, clarke of the passage.
I have desired Morris to send this to you.

J. Topping to *secretary* Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxiii.
p. 31.

THERE hath bine an Eiy upon doctor Newton, since you writ to me: he hath gone litle out of the towne this winter: he accompanyes with disaffected persons, and was an ould companion of Paul Hobson. The serching of Aubury's house, I suppose, did startle that party, and hath made them (I think) more wary. I am lately tould by our Marshal, that he heard some at Newcastle say, Aubury was seene early and late neare a wood just by the river side on this side Newcastle 3 dayes before I serched his house and vessel. I shall make a further inquiry into the truth of this. Indeed the wood is a fitt place for such a designe. Your first letter lay 2 or 3 dayes at the post house before it came to my hands, or otherwise Aubury had bine caught in his * * * Thomas Errington, the post master is * * * then he should be: he was one of P. H. great affociates, and alsoe a companion of ould caveleares. I am tould he is not mended: many speake bad of him.

This day manie of the rebaptized judgment meet at Newcastle about Paule Hobson's 8 diabolical reasons, sensureing all that signed the adresses to his highnes to be incomunicable in the ordinances of God, hatch'd in his fraudulent head, and are the fountaine of major Bramston's 18 reasons, as I am told, by one of their dissenting brethren. It is thought all the dissenting brothers will agree this day to publish something to the world, about cleareing themselves from suspicion. I thinke it would be convenient such malignant persons were secured by the civell magistrate. I am,

Sir,

Tynmouth Castle, Feb. 5, 1654.

Your very humble servant,

J. TOPPING.

Pray excuse my haste.

Mr. Bradshaw, *resident at* Hamburg, to *secretary* Thurloe.

HONORED SIR,

Vol. xxxv.
p. 74.

AT instant the post comes on with your letter of the the 26th of January, which gives notice of the dissoalvinge of the parliament. I am glad there's no disturbance thereupon, as was designed by the enemyes of our peace; yet some report here, that the governor of Hull should have denyed entrance to a regiment sent thither by his highnes; but I hope it's only foe given out by such as would have it foe, and worse, if they could effect it.

I perceive the affaires of state pressed too hard upon you to find tyme to acquaint his highnes with the account I gave of the entertainment his letter found here; but I shall hope to heare from you of it per next, and to receive his highnes's further commands in that particular. Mr. Townley, now that he hath spanned up his designe to the height here, and engaged as many as he could therein, is gone for England, to agitate for himselfe and his partie, they haveinge (as I heare) presented a petition to his highnes, before the cominge fourth of the last post, to have libertie to vindicate themselves and their proceedings, being resolved to stand it out to the utmost, not questioning but their numbers and friends will beare them out, and bringe them off bravely. I suppose, if they have presented any such petition, it hath past your hands, and that you will please to order me a copie of it per next post, which request I formerly made, in case any petition or remonstrance should be exhibited by them. They beinge resolved to stand upon their justification,

justification, it may be required at my hands to prove what I have charged them with; A. D. 1654.
 therefore my request is, that you will please to move his highness for a commission to be sent me, to examine witnesses, directed to Robert Palmer, David Hechstetter, Isaac Blackwell, William Strange, and Cuthbert Jones, merchants of the company, addinge whome you think fitt to them, if it shall not be thought fitt to direct it only to my selfe, because I may seeme concerned, which yet I am not otherwise than as a servant to his highness and the commonwealth. I pray, sir, haste the commission and copy of their petition, or paper whatsoever it is, with the names of such as have subscribed it, which I heare are many. I hope in the meane tyme his highness and your selfe will so far credit what I have writ, as not to admit any thing from them in my prejudice, till you have my proofes, which shall be sent as well in the busines of Waites as those gentlemen who are so confident of their cause, so soone as I receive the commission, or an order to examine witnesses as resident, which power I suppose my character carries in it, for the service of the state.

I here inclose you a letter this day received from the gentleman you know of, and doe write him per this day's post of your order for 50 l. more, part of which is already remitted him. You will please to excuse these hasty lynes, and let me have from you as soone as possible what directions his highness hath given, that the government of the company may be settled, which will very much oblige

Your humble servant,

Hamburg, Feb. 6. 1654.

RICHARD BRADSHAW.

Fleetwood, *lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.*

SIR,

THAT designe, which was carying on in England, I have reason to believe the same was in Ireland amongst the Irish, and those who have bine of that party. They are still carrying on some thinge, which I cannot yet fully make out; but the cheife head-peices have there private counsellors in Dublyn, and they have there agents in England. The names of the cheife are, sir Edward Fitzs Harris, mr. John Halys, sir Robert Talbott, mr. Seagrave, mr. John Grace, and one Power. These corespond with those heere at Dublyn, who have there emissaries to disperse into that country on all occasions, what they thincke convenient to carry on there designes. It were well an eye were had on those persons in London, especially mr. Seagrave and Grace, who are men of parts and interest; and so is sir Robert Talbot. This inclosed was from some of there cheife heere, which was sent into the countie of Longford, where one of the scoutmaster generall's agents lives, and brought him this letter. Wee are endeavoring to search what we can find out in this busines, and hope the Lord will discover and blast all there designes, and that the forces will be diligent in there respective places. The Irish are very high, but much troubled at dissolution of the parliament. I did not long since receive a letter from my brother Cromwell, that one colonell Trefwell was in the late plott, who hath kept very private heere, but I heareing where he was, is now secured. There is a very strange scandalous book, intituled, *Arguments against Transplantation*, that is now come forth, which doth verie falsely and unworthily asperse those, that did and now doe serve the state heere. The person, who is said to write this, will, I doubt, as much deceave your expectation in England, as he hath bine disingenuous to us heere, who have bine ready on all occasions to show respect to him; but those, who know him better than I doe, have before this tyme bespoken what manner of spirit he was off, which I in too much charitie did hope had bine otherwise. It wil be a great discouragement to the state servants, if such may be allowed there libertie to traduce them. I formerly received a letter from his highness for the dismissal of lieutenant colonell Scot from his command; and heareing since from an officer, that came latelye from England, of his continued dissatisfaction; and therefore desire to know his highnes pleasure therein. Excuse the trouble of this from

Your very affectionate freind

Feb. 7. 1654.

and humble servant,

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

February

February 7, 1654.

*Concerning adjutant Allen.*A. D. 1654.
V. xxiii. p. 43.

SIR John Davis baronett reports, that the said adjutant said, at his last being in London, he was with the protector, and had roundly told him his mind; and that hee did nettle the protector extreemly; that he departed from him in a huffe without any leave, and yet immediately tooke his horse, and came out of London.

About the end of November hee meett in Exeter a kinsman of his wife's, one mr. Reynell, who was chosen a member of the last parliament, but had diserted. Hee told the said mr. Reynell, they were quiett in Ireland as to the common Ennemy, but there were many discontented there as well as here. He said there was a talking of disbanding some there, and that he was pitched upon to inform a committee concerning it, and other the affaires of Ireland; but he was resolved to say nothing in it. He said theire might be mischeif, besides the danger of disbanding any then. That there could not bee 5000 drawn into the field; and that there was 40,000 to be kept under. He did highly commend lieutenant general Ludlowe, and said he was come already or coming into England; that he intended to be himselfe in Ireland in February, but would first goe to London.

The said mr. Reynell telling him, he was ready to act in the country as a justice of the peace, though he could not as a parliament man, for that the best way (as he thought) to be secured against the common enemies was to acquiesce in and under the present government; he answered, that he happily might think so likewise, but there were many of another mind, and the protector might have overruled all according to the interest of honest men, without taking so much power to himselfe, which did displease many.

All company, that have since his last coming from London into these parts conversed with him, do report him to be a person highly dissatisfied with the present government.

There are divers strangers, particularly from Somerset and about Bristol, that came to his meetings, which are often on week dayes. He rides comonly with a kind of vizard over his face, with glasse over his eyes; and this he did on the 5th of last month, being fryday, ridinge to a meeting at Luppitt, within this county; and that which did not a little cause suspition of him was the coming at that time of Hugh Courtney (that had been or is an officer in Ireland) to mr. Prouze's house, a cavalier of a good estate, where the said Courtney scarce spoke any thing but treason, most bitterly revileing the present government and his highnes; said he was then goeing to London, where and thereabouts he was sure to meet hearts and hands enough to carry on the anabaptistickall interest; that his government should not stand many months, and that deliverance was at hand.

Wee have not picked out the venom of his discourfes, but fairly represented the same.

Jo. COPLESTON,
UNTON CROKE.

From adjutant Allen.

MY LORD,

V. xxiii. p. 41.

I HAVE by this post received one from your lordship, mentioning one of mine that you have seen, wich you are pleased to give your sens uppon, and to charg me with disingenuity in writing as I did; but when you are pleased to looke again, and se your own mistake, my charg will be the less. I was tolde by captain Crook that he thought it was for words spoke at anabaptists meetings, and foe I gave account of it in my letter to the best of my memory. What spirit it shews to repeate his words, I know not, but you are judg in that case. I must confess I have a deep sens of my restraint, knowing it causless as to the matter alleadged; but my God, before whom you and I shall er long nakedly apear, will in due tyme cleare my innocency, and judg such deallings righteously. On him I desire patiently to wait. I did not say you feared me; I may now say in that you wrong me: if you had, you say, you could have taken my commission, but it seems that was too little, without my good name alsoe, wich, though I am but a poore man, it is to me precious, and I cannot but say, it is an ill reward for 13 years faithful servic. As for my designe to make profelites heer, you cannot but know I have had more advantagious places and opportunities for such a work, if I had intended it. I will not say, I have hinder'd the makeing som that might have added more troubl to you er this then you are aware of. You are pleased to say, I have but littl to say for my dissatisfactions, or els I dissembled, when I was with you last. Truly, my lord, you know I am not much given to dissembl my judgment. Doe not judg me, because I sayd but littl, sinc you pritty well know the reason

reason of it: you gave me but littl time, takeing up the whole almost your self, of wich I then complained. As to your intelligence from these parts of my divulging my dissatisfactions, wich you say will bee made good, I know it cannot, though envy doe it's worst. Yet I know endeavours have been used to make a man an offender for a word, if possibl: how just that is, or acceptabl to the Lord, doe you judg from Isayah the 29, the 20, 21. You are also pleased to tax me with having as light an esteeme of you as of C. S. though neither any word in my letter nor any action of mine did ever give you ground for such a surmise. What my esteem hath been of you in some verticall forsakeing dayes I beleev you can remember; and I cann truly saye, if I have erred, it hath been, I feare, in esteeming too highly of you. The different esteeme I yett have of your Lordshipp from the other in part is this; I could freely ingadge against the other as formerly, but I durst not lift a hand against you, nor joyn with or advise the doinge of it. Doe not charge thinges upon me, which you in your owne conscience must needs be satisfied are not chargeable. I shall remaine heere duringe your pleasure, though I am ill accomodated having no money nor cloaths for me, my poore wife, nor littl one; but the will of God be don, and yours alsoe. The Lord grant you may find more mercy from him in the great day, then I have had from you in this. Beging pardon for this troubl, I comitt you to the Lord, and remaine,

My lord,

Sand. Feb. 7, 1654.

your lordship's

true and faithfull servant,

though wrongfully restrained,

WILLIAM ALLEN.

I could humbly beg a liberty to goe
to hear the word, if it might be.

From adjutant general Allen,

Feb. 7, [1654.]

DEARE FREINDS,

I Thanck you for your simpathy and care of me in this littl hour of my distres, wich indeed hath occasioned some conflicts in my poore heart, wich I finde in too untaught a frame to suffer wrongs and injuryes; but I hope the Lord will doe me good by it. I can asure you, that uppon the most dilligent search of my own heart and wayes, since I came into this country, I cannot finde my self guilty so much as a word to my knowledg, as to matters charged: the Lord knows I came downe resolved to bee silent, to wait, and se what God would bring forth, and accordingly have carried my self sinc, wich I durst not tell you, if I did not speake my heart in it; and I am the most to seek as to any probabl cause of such rumers as from me, that ever I was in my life. I speak not this, that I would have you acquaint the protector with it; let him doe what he pleases. I hope the Lord will teach me to doe and suffer his will, let it be what it will; though you cannot but thinck such thinges are of a verry tender nature to flesh and blood. I have sent you a copy of his highnes letter to me, and my answer, wich I desire you to peruse, because advice is good, and I have som jealousy of my owne heart under my present tryall. I leave it to you to deliver it to him, if you judg it meet. I dare say noe more, though I beg you let not the plainnes of the stile hinder your delivery of it. I have forborne tart languadg as much as I could, and must tell you, I thinck it may verry well be delivered, and doe very much desire it might; but I submitt all to you, desireinge you would not be over hasty for my deliverenc, for I think I shall serve no longer with you as a soldier, my work being don. Oh that I had don more good in my day, but I am a poor creater. Pitty and pray for me, that I may profit by, and be upheld under the present dispensation. Soe my and my wife's love and service to your wife.

I am yours verry heartily,

WILLIAM ALLEN.

The superscription.

*These for col. Daniel Axtel,
doct^r Phillip Carteret, or
either of them.*

Mr. Thomas Herbert clerk of the council in Ireland to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

A. D. 1654.

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

MR. Justice Cooke, captain Shaw, and my selfe were lately ordered by my lord deputie and counsel to repayre unto lieutenant generall Ludlow, and to demand his two military comissions; and in case of refusall to take his parole in writing, that by the 10th of March next hee should present himselfe unto his highnes the lord protector at Whitehall. Hee choose rather to ingage the latter, then to give up his comissions. Whereupon wee tooke his parole, the copy of which is inclosed, which by his excellencies and the council's order is sent your honor.

I have by their order also sent inclosed colonell Eyre's examination. Hee hath been in close restraint at the fergeant at armes since the 27 of January, and so continueth. Yesterday coll. Dan. Trefwell, late agent here for the pr. of Condé, was likewise secured and examined. Little appeares from him against himselfe as party to the late plott. Divers others are to be examined, which being perfected will together be transmitted to your honor. I am,

Right honourable,

your most humble servant,

THOMAS HERBERT.

Dublin, Feb. 7, 1654.

Lieutenant general Ludlow's engagement.

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

WHereas mr. Justice Cook, colonell Herbert, and captain Shaw (by virtue of an order of the lord Deputy and council, dated the 29th of this instant January) are authorized to demand and to receive my two military comissions, as lieutenant general of the horse, and colonell of horse in Ireland; or to take my parole in writing, that by or before the 10th day of March next (wind and weather favouring) I should present myselfe unto the lord protector; I do hereby engage my parole unto the abovesaid Gentlemen, that I will accordingly (the Lord permitting) tender myselfe unto the lord protector at Whitehall by that time; and that in the mean time I shall act nothing directly or indirectly to the disturbance of the peace, or the prejudice of the present government. Witness my hand at Monutayne near Dublin the 30 January 1654.

EDMOND LUDLOWE.

Captain Gregory Butler to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

V. xxiii. p. 47.

TYME will not permitt me to give you such an account of your affaires heer as I thought to have donn. The commissioners this evening have resolved to send my selfe with 3 ships for the Leeward islands, to raise such force, as may conduce most for your highnes service. We have according to your commands laid an embargo upon all ships heer, and seised upon 8 Dutch shippes we found heer. The islanders here much desire commerce with strangers, our English merchants trafiquing to those parts being generally great extortioners. I humbly represent to your highnes the necessity of allowing forreigne commerce, which can be noe way prejudiciall, imposing upon them double custom to be paid in our English plantations in these parts. As yett our London shippes are not arrived with our store. We are now ready to sett saile; wheirforce being in haste I humbly beg your highnes pardon for not returning foe full an account as I intended. By the next conveyance I shall endeavour to render you as perfect an account as I can possible. In the mean tyme I presume to stile myselfe

Your highnes

most humble servant,

GREGORY BUTLER,

From aboard the Marston-
moore ryding before the
Berbadoes.

Feb. 7, 1654.

Captain

Captain Unton Croke to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

IF my last letter of account concerning adjutant general Allen, (which I sent upp with A. D. 1654. V. xxv. p. 59. vel 60, divers papers inclosed in it by the same post, that he wrote to your highnesse) bee not yett come unto your highnesse hands, I cannot but suspect their hath been some ugly practise used in diverting the intelligence, which at large I presented your highnesse with; and alsoe an endeavour to render mee negligent and remisse in my duty towards your highnesse. And leaft what I (have reason to) feare should prove true, that your highnesse is yet in the darke concerning all passages of the seizing the adjutant's person and other things relating to him, I shall presume humbly to reiterate what I formerly hinted unto your highnesse. Soe soone as I received your commaunds for securing his person, which came to my hands this day 8 dayes in the evening, within few howers afterwards I sett forth of Exon towards his father-in-lawe's mr. Huish his house, where I heard the adjutant was, to which place I came about breake of the nexte day; and having enquired of some servants of the house, whither the adjutant were there, they told mee he was, and in bed. Soe soone as I heard this, I resolved according to what the high sherife and I agreed on the night before, imagining it might conduce much to the advantage of your highnesse, to seize on his trunckes, and then to search for papers, thereby to discover his designe, and to know who were his correspondents; but unhappily he had sent them up to London some few dayes before, soe that I was deprived of my intention. And heer, my Lord, if he could quarrell at any thing in his apprehension, it was at this action, where I was necessitated to send 2 or 3 souldiers to enter in his chamber with the first that carried him newes of my being come to the house, leaft he having notice, if he had any papers there, might convey them away. Some few letters were found, which I inclosed in my last letter to your highnesse. They were writt to him from some discontented spirrits, and many dissatisfactorie clauses conteyned in them. 'Tis true, my lord, the souldiers wore their swords by their sides, and alighting from their horses, tooke their pistols in their handes; but that the leaft violence was used, or any ill words gave, or any thing that looked like an affront, I doe deny, and well know that he cannot lay any thing to the charge of my selfe or any man that was with me. I should now, my Lord, render your highnesse an account of what words passed between us; but hoping that my former letter is ere this in your highnesse hands, I shall forbear; only this I shall adde, that according to your highnesse instructions, I confined him to his father's house, he giving mee a noat under his hand, that he would their remayne, untill your highnesse further pleasure were knowne. This day I sent him your highnesse letter, and I desired him to remember his promise unto me, in continuing at the present where hee was. All that possibly the high sherrife and my selfe with the greatest care and diligence wee have used can of a truth make out against him is this, that to two persons of very good qualitie in this countie in his discourfes he vented these words; to the one he said (and that in a high bravado) that hee was not ashamed to say, that he was dissatisfied with the present government; and that hee had declared so much (said hee) to your highnesse, and added, that in his discourse to your highnes hee very much nettled you; and having put your highnes into a chaffe, he left you, and then tooke his horse, and came into the countrey without taking leave. To the other gentleman he said, they being entered into severall discourfes, and the gentleman asking him some questions concerning Ireland, as to the peace thereof, &c. to which the adjutant replied, they were free from the common ennemie, but there were those that were discontented there as well as heere. He added, that it was reported, that some in Ireland should be disbanded, which he thought could not be done; and then entring into a high commendation of lieutenant general Ludlow, he concluded the Irish discourse. After this the gentleman tooke the occasion to expresse the great sence of happines, that he and the whole nation had by your highnesse's government, to which the adjutant replied, that he perceived he thought soe, and it may be soe might hee; but hee thought many others were of another mind. And then said, that your highnes might have overuled all, according to the interest of honest men, without takeing so much of the government to your selfe, which he said displeased many. My lord, these words will bee exactly proved. Many others I have heard in many places spoken, but cannot prove them. All the countie rings of his dissatisfaction, which hee spares not to tell every where, especially at the meetings of such of the baptized church, where hee resorts, but doth it so cunningly, that I cannot yet discover him further, though without all question his worke hath been in those parts to dissatisfie those people. They have had divers meetings of late upon the week dayes, to which places he hath gone disguised with kind of vizard; and this also can be proved. I sent all over Dorsettsheir and Devon enquiring after colonel Sexby and Courtney, but as yett cannot heare of them; and your highnes need not doubt in the leaft of my viligence and care in all respects over those that are your highnes and the nations ennemies. I have

A. D. 1654. *W* faithfull scouts in all parts of this countrie, who doe correspond with me; and if any thing be hatching, I hope the Lord will make mee instrumental to discover and suppress it. I have according to your highnesse commaunds acquainted the baptized church in Exon with your highnesse's favour towards them, who have sent this enclosed letter of thanks to your highnesse. I now take leave humbly to subscribe myselfe

Exon, February 7, 1654.

Your highnesse's most humble

and devoted servant,

UNTON CROKE.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xlvii.
P. 94

THE Spaniards are now sending back the train-bands of Naples, which this summer they carried to Barfalona for its defence against the French. An English ship arrived at Civita Vecchia met with the Flemish ships laden with these soldiers, who seeing the ships Dutch with the Hollands Coullors sent aboard his boat to borrow a hogshed of water. They kept his boat, and all his men, and sent their boat aboard the English ship for the captain, but he seeing his boat detained, detained theirs likewise, and carried it with him into Civita Vecchia, from whence he gives me these advys. The ship is called the Angel, captain Rand, who gives me this relation, and complains much of the incivility of the Dutch, who instead of being friends, have done their endeavours to entrap and betray him, whereof I thought good to give you this short account.

'Tis advys'd
from Rom for
very certain
newes, that
the Spaniard
either has
made peace
with Portugall
or is very nere
it.

The discords in the Switzers cantons is cause of much discourse: 'tis sayd both the duk of Savoy and the state of Millan are bound to help the catholick party. I hope the other will not be destitute: it much troubles Italy that the duk of Brandenburg has made peace with the king of Sweden. That queen in Rom seems lately to adhere much to the French: 'tis sayd she carries herself very politically, but with little reputation or respect to her honour.

'Tis publickly advys'd, that general Blak's fleet comes into these seas, where if they continue, 'tis convenient they should have some port to refresh and careen their ships in, as also to have provision for such things as they may want; to which end if you please to command me, I shall go to the great duk about it, or any other prince in Italy, where you shall please to direct: only be pleas'd to give me some instructions, and I shall diligently obey your command, for 'tis not fitting such a fleet would come in any port upon uncertainties. If the fleet have any occasion of powder, I can provide here large quantity to the import of 4 or 5 thousand barrels to be laid up and kept as a store for them; but in such case pray let me have 3 months warning to provide it, and wherein I can be any otherwayes serviceable, be pleas'd to command,

Leghorn, February 18,
1655. [N. S.]

Right honorable,

your most humble servant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

Beverning to Nieupoort.

Amsterdam, Feb. 19, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

V. xxiii. p. 55.

LAST tuesday we fastned the lord de Witt to a wife, and he sent me word yesterday, that being still busy with her, he had no time to write; and I will add withal my own excuse, that in regard I am here, and have received no letters out of England by this post, I have not much to write at this time; and in regard the difficulties, which are made by the members for your coming over, do only reflect upon the treaty, I dare assure you, that the same may be afterwards obtained to your content. Till that be done, I would not advise you to stir any farther about it. In the mean time I have something of importance to communicate unto you concerning the publick, which I defer till I return to the Hague.

Fleetwood,

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

WE have many difficulties upon us betwixt the adventurers, souldiers, and English protestant compounders, the firste alleading 2 acts of parliament against the ordinance for compounding: however wee have proceeded towards a composition with them; and did begin with my lord Moore, whose fine was sett at 2 yeares vallew, and to be paid in equall portions at 6 and 6 monethes in 2 yeares, which he looks upon to be impossible for him to performe, and presses very hard, that he may have 3 yeares time, and possession of his estate in the meane time. Wee as yet cannot satisfie ourselves to grant it, and he very much presses the representing of his condition to my lord protector. It will be a great favour in you and advantage to our affaires, if you would privately let me understand his highness sence as to these persons. I know you will have many clamours against us from some of the adventurers, as if we did discourage plantation; and however we might formerly be strict in some things, yett let me say, we have of later times bine, I hope, ready the utmost we could to incourage that worke, so far as wee could be satisfied it was within our power; in which wee had the judges advice. The agent for the adventurers not long since put in a paper, which consisted of 3 demandes, with arguments thereupon, viz. 1. That he might have the possession of the moyeties of the 10 counties belonging to the adventurer in his possession. 2. That we would make voyd all custodiams. 3. Concerning the English protestants compounding. These 3 being owned as great obstructions to the adventurers, besides the opinion of the judges, wee desired justice Pepys to peruse his papers, and upon his report back, we, declaring our readines to encourage that worke, gave this answer, that we should give possession to every one, who answered there certificates, according to the act, and did hinder possession to none. 2. As to that of the leases, wee should doe the adventurers right in their applications to us in all perticular cases. The truth is, that is but a pretence of an obstruction, for most of our leases are void, the conditions not being performed by the leases. As to the 3. about delinquent protestants, wee plead my lord protector's ordinance. We have much reason to suspect, that some doe speake evill of us in this busines of the adventurers, because they would discourage people from improving the adventurers, to the end that they might purchase them at easy rates. There is one thing in our instructions, wherein the state's interest is much concerned, and wee are at a stand what to doe therein. It is in the head of the instruction concerning granting of leases, wherein the terme of yeares is blancke, and we know not what his highnes and councill's pleasure is therein. I heare honest mr. Corbett is much asperst. Give me leave to say, he is a worthy person, and a faithful servant to his highnes and the commonwealth. His strictnes against particuler interest on a publique account makes him thus liable to exception by some persons. Excuse the trouble of these from

A. D. 1654.
V. xxiii. p. 71.

Your very affectionate freind and servant,

Feb. 10, 1654.

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

Copy of an intercepted letter, in the hand-writing of secretary Thurloe.

Calais, Feb. 18, 1655. [N. S.]

DEARE SIR,

I HAVE received yours, and shall write you by this addresse, still findeinge letters come safe to handes, as I sayd in my last. I keepe my word, for this day I am come hether, and shall in few dayes be with you, and therefore pray let all thinges on your side be in a readines, that I might not stave longe in England, for feare of my owne miscarriage, although that is not valueable for soe good a worke as the ruininge hym, that hath destroyed both our master and all honest men. If madame Cleypooles nurse's Child can be made, it will be well and of great advantage to us. However the young gentlewoman will not faile in point of our accessse to the house. Enquire in Longe Acre for my cozen Godfrey, I meane hym that was lately a member of your house, not his sonne, for he is a justice, but the old man, wheither he can secure me for a day or two, for I heare he is noe freind to Cromwell, and soe may not be unwilling to receive me. Soe God bleffe your undertakings, for it is better to dye like men in noble actions, then to live miserablye. Be of good courage. I doe assure you none is more at your devotion then

Deare sir,

your most humble and reall servant,

THOMAS POWELL.

VOL. III.

P p

I will

A. D. 1654. *I will come about Portsmouth, and leave the vessel there, which will be more safe then where you advised me, and lesse suspicious; and besides I will call of your friend at Alton in Hampshire, where you must send me word the place I meet you, and be punctuall in this particuler, for I shall seeke at London to find you.*

The token you may addressse to my cozen by, that his letter was the occasion of my former comeinge over about my peace, when I was committed to the Tower, but he was not in the fault.

Now I thinke of it, I leave the speakeinge to the old man to your discretion; but he will be a fitt person to harbour me. I beleeve he will doe it, for he is kinde to me.

The superscription,

For mr. Tho. Browne, leave this at the post-house untill called for, att London.

William Prior to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

V.xxi.p.404.

IN reference to your most honorable promise, I shall make a full and perfect declaration of what I know as to the questions you askt me, as I desire to find mercy at the great day when the secrets of all hearts shall be disclosed. That I tooke my fen-land, because I would be from the hearing of newes, the Lord knowes it is a truth. That I have kept myselfe from any such temptation for above these two yeares last past, is as true; untill about six weeks agoe I came up to my landlord about my cattle, that were seized on for rent, that I durst not pay without security. I haveing received a discharg from mr. Henry Cromwell of Ramfey, and going to visitt a kinsman in Old Bayley, I mett with lieutenant Crossman, who told collonel Eaires were in town, and did enquire for me. I askt him, where he quartered; he told me at mr. Penicoats in Black-friers in Swan Aley. The next morning I went to him; he askt me what I thought of the condition of the nation under the breach of oaths, even wheeled about, and as they were, and how the cavileeres jeared us in all places, and could find better acceptance with your highnes then those, who had borne the burthen and heat of the day. I replied, as I remember, with the story out of the Iffa fables; he desired me to com againe the next day; he would gett me to copy out a paper, which he said a freind of his had, and to convey it to sir Arthur Hazlerig, which was not a declaration, but a kind of remonstrative pamphlet, which to my best remembrance the particulers was upon what termes the late warr ware; and for what all the blood was shead and treasure spent, and withall a desire of meeting in the countrey to consider of the choosinge of a free parliament, with somthing to the inducing the people against the government in one single person. This was the some, which I had from a black fatt man that came to collonel Eairs chamber, his name I cannot tell; I askt collonel Eaires, but he would not tell me, and this I carryed downe to Thurning, where I had not been 2 dayes, before that same John Dallington cam to my father's house, that your highnes questioned me about, who said he cam from sea, and that he belonged to the constant Warrick, and that he landed near Haridg, and that all the fleet was united to Oakley's papers, and that he was sent in that forlorne posture, to see how the countrey stood affected; and to give intelligence to his captain, and soe to the fleet: he said he had been with captain Loyd at St. Ives, and that he had been a little before in Scotland with the souldiery there, and that severall officers of the fleet was com to your highnes with their resolutions; and that the governor of Langerpoynt had engaged to secure the fleet, if there was occasion. The aforementioned remonstrance I read to the said John Dallington, afterwards I carried it in my pocket to Gumley in Lestershire, where my wife is, who seeing of it gatt it out of my pocket, and burnt it. For seeking to promote it any more than what is here declared, or shewing it to any but what is heerein mentioned, as I desire mercy at the hands of God, I did not, and this I was preft in conscience to signifie to your highnes, which is the full truth of what I know; and I trust in God will soe dispose of me, that I shall never more meddle with publique busineses of this nature while I live. As to what passed between mr. Overton and myselfe, I doe not remember particulers, but only that it were matter of newes. I would have had him stated my busnes as to my landlord, and I would have borrowed 20s. of him to bare my charges hom, I haveing but 5s. when I came up. Severall particulers past between us as to those latter, which would not be materiall to relate.

And this, my lord, is the very truth, to the best of my understanding, that past between those men and myselfe; in the judging of which I shall freely submitt to your highnes mercy, and subscribe myselfe, my Lord,

Your highnes most humble servant,

WILLIAM PRYOR.

The great duke of Tuscany's principal secretary to his resident Salvatti in England.

THOSE refreshing presents, which were several times sent to Leghorn to the lord general V. xxiii. Blake by the great duke our master, were ever accompanied with such exquisite wines, p. 181. as his highness cellar did afford, and received by his lordship very kindly, and acknowledging their goodness by returning ever answer, that there were never such rare wines drank in England, and how much they would be liked in those parts. Hereupon the general being asked, whether he believed that the lord protector's highness would be pleased to accept a taste of them, who answering, that he made no manner of doubt, but that the lord protector would like them very well; this answer made the great duke resolve, and to command the preparing 24 chests of several sorts of them, and to be addressed to you, as it hath been already done at Leghorn, upon the ship called the Endymion, at whose arrival at London the great duke hath commanded me to tell you, that as soon as you have received them, you would acquaint sir Oliver Flemming master of the ceremonies or others, as you shall think most fit; and to inform him or them, that the great duke, encouraged by the general's answer, did presently apply his thoughts of sending to the lord protector's highness this small quantity of chests, a sign of his most obsequious observance to his highness, &c. But before you shew yourself to present them, you must entreat sir Oliver Flemming or others to tell you freely, whether they believe, that the lord protector will take in good part the presenting unto him such wines; and in case they return unto you an approbation, then you may appear and present them yourself in the great duke's name, and in his name also to excuse him in presuming to send to his highness such small things as these are, and to beseech him to be pleased to judge (even by such a small toy) the true intention and desire he hath and ever will have to serve his highness in greater matters. Thus expecting your answer most affectionately I kiss your hand.

Florence, February 20,
1654. [N. S.]

Your most affectionate servant,
GEO. BATTA GONDI.

Noel Boteler to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

IN pursuance of that command I this day received from you, I send a partie of horse V. xxiii. p. 77. to Edilton, where they apprehended major Wileman, and according to your order I have sent him to Chepstow. Att their coming into the house, where hee was, they found him and his man a writing these inclosed papers, and some few armes they have alsoe taken, which are heere amongst us. I am

Marleborough, February 10,
1654.

Your highness dutifull
and faithful servant,
NOEL BOTELER.

Notes of major Wildman's plot by secretary Thurloe.

THAT the first meetinge was at mr. Allen's house, a merchant in Birchen Lane in the Vol. xxiv. begining of September 1654. Okey, Alured, Saunders, Hacker, Wyldman, Lawfon. p. 71. Petition drawn by Wyldman and after Bishopp had it, and shewed it to Bradshaw.

Meetings alsoe were at Blew Bore's head in Kingstreet. In Wyldman's house, Dolphin tavern in Tower-street, Darby house.

Henry Martyn, lord Grey, captain Bishopp, Alexander Popham once, Anthony Peirson some tymes.

The men they built upon was sir G. Booth, Bradshaw, Haselrigg, G. Finwicke, Birch, Her. Moley, Wilmer, Pynne, Scott, Fr. Allen, Person went with Hasel: &c. Bishop, Lets, Bradshaw, and their advises given by them.

At the same tyme a petition from the citty which Bradshaw advised in, and severall mett at his house, especially one Ayrs, sir Ar. H. Scott, col. Sankey, Weaver, directed both the bringing it in, and the manner of doing it.

Sankey at Bradshaw's often, where Bishopp mett him.

Overton

A. D. 1654. Overton and Wyldman spoke together before notice given of their dislike of things, but noe desyn laid therein, the . . . of the army in Scotland, not let know.

But after they ware, he writt letters to lett them know, that there was a party which would stand right for a commonwealth. Then Br. sent to them.

And a meeting of officers at certain quarters: put all . . . much trusted, and drew most of thar papers.

The regiments, that they relyed on Riche's, Tomlinson's, Okey's, Pride's, Sterlingscastle, Alured's, Overton's, some of the generall's regiments.

Begin with a mutiny, and then they should seize and putt in Edenb. castle, which they were sure of; forced Overton to command. He writ up hither and then declaration ready, which was drawne by the meeting here, and sent G. Br. . . . and printed here. Spoke, as if they should have Berwick.

Sure of Hull by Overton's means and the townsmen, and Overton's correspondence, Leicestershire, Grey and captain Baliard. Bedd. Okey, and Whitehead, and great depending on Hacker: they at last declared if any . . . or a parliament, not medle against them.

West, Pyne, Alexander Popham, Taunton, Bristow, Portsmouth.

G. Bishopp tooke a progress to R. Y. of Gloc. Hereford. &c. and it's thought he spake with the governor of Hereford.

Officers and regiments in England.

Saunders's regiment.

Major Creed spake to by Sexby twice; at the first he had almost engaged him, but conference refused.

Two troopes of Berry's regiment, Crooke's and Hutton's . . . lieutenant to Crooke not well . . . but not acquainted with the designe.

Pr. owne regiments, not an officer, but many private soldiers.

They spake much of Worley's major now gone off.

Sure of Farley.

Harrison, Cary, King, Roberts, of the junto for the 5th monarchy.

A letter of information to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

V. xxiii. p. 81.

I Heard this day from an understanding friend, that the people in the West are to come to a rendezvous about Taunton on monday, and from thence to meet with other dissatisfied people; and the declarations, upon which they engage, are to be scattered abroad this night, or to morrow, and endeavours to draw some of the soldiery to them, wherewith I thought fitt to acquaint you.

February 11, 1654.

Col. Francis Hacker to the protector.

Feb. 12, 1654.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

V. xxiii. p. 89.

According to your command, I have seized the lord Grey and captain Bodell. I have alsoe according to order seized 3 horses and 5 case of pistols, being all the armes I could find, and those unfixed. My lord did informe mee, that 3 of his best horses was not yett come from Stamford, where a race was lately; but he expected them this night, and if I would send for them, they will bee forthcoming. The lord Grey is much discontented with the gout, and was desirous to knowe, whether hee was to goe, which I concealed from him, and hee perceiving mee not willing to declare, said hee was willing to submit to goe whether I pleased; but desires to come to London. I have not acquainted him, whether hee is to goe, but have presumed upon the advice and consent of those with mee, in regard of his indisposition of health, to let him rest at Leicester, where will bee three troopes for his guard, untill further order from your highnes. I shall be carefull to gett what intelligence I can; but yet see noe appearance of danger, except by those called quakers, who will not bee persuaded to returne home, but sayes they stand in the counsell of the Lord, and not in the will of man. My lord, there is a chirurgeon in my lord Lambert's regiment, who writ to one Smith, who lives in Newarke, who had benee his mate, that the under officers of the army had a designe in hand; and if it tooke place, wee should see glorious tymes. And this man is a great favourer of the quakers, if not one. The truth of this will bee testified by honest men, who have seene the letter. I am,

Your highnes most humble servant,

FRANCIS HACKER.

The

The humble information of major John Harris, sheweth,

THAT having seemingly complied with mr. Spittlehouse and others of the 5th mo- A. D. 1654.
 narchists, he hath gotten to such a frequent communication of company, and in a
 great part counsels; that he doubteth not, but (if approved by your honour) to give you a
 more certain account of their actings, than you shall gain by their examination or other
 more visible scrutinies. Vol. xxxiii.
 p. 632.

That since the imprisonment of Jones, and being initiated by mr. Spittlehouse, I
 have had intimate discourse with them, and find as followeth;

1. That the elder Jones, although made use of by the younger in delivery against the
queries and other books, to such as came for them; yet that he is different from his bro-
 ther in principle, and that ignorance and advantage were the inducements to his engage-
 ment herein.

2. That the younger (being one of the pillars of that principle, and active herewithal)
 hath by his procurement caused 1000 of the *queries* to be printed; the greatest part
 whereof he hath disperst into Wales and other parts of the country and city; and that the
 printing of them cost him 50 s. but the printer I could not so suddenly discover or know.

3. That the book called the *Protestour Unveiled* hath likewise gone thorough his hand,
 because he affirmeth, that if the truth therein shall be the only question, he knoweth the
 author will both own and justify it; and if a close restraint do not prevent, I doubt not
 but to give you a sudden account thereof.

4. That if your honour be pleased to certify by some private intimation your pleasure
 herein, he doubteth not but to be instrumental in the prevention or discovery of many
 scandalous papers, he having been bred a printer, and knowing the methods that are and
 must be observed in the discovery thereof.

J. H.

An information.

ABOUT 5 weeks since commeth one Beckett, a souldier, an old acquaintance, to aske
 mee and my brother, whether wee had any of the *queries* concerning the lord pro- Vol. xxxiii.
 tector. I having seene one of them, but not weighing the consequence of them, and p. 646.
 being willing to accomodate my freind, went to mr. Larnar, where I had seene one, to
 enquire for some for him; but he had none: my brother hearing Larnar had none, told the
 party hee would enquire for some for him. The next time my brother went abroad, hee
 brought home a dozen for the party abovesaid, mr. Beckett. Larnar understanding that
 my brother had procured some for Beckett, desired mee earnestly to speake to my brother to
 procure some for him, which my brother also did, as I take it about a dozen, for which I
 received the money, and gave to my brother. About a weeke after comes a stranger, pre-
 tending hee came from some that knew mee, and that hee himselfe was of my judg-
 ment, with many flattering, and (as it proveth) lying pretences, and desired me to procure
 him some of the *queries*, because hee had some friends were desirous to see them, for their
 satisfaction. I answered, I had none, but there was a brother of mine had procured some
 for others, and may bee could for him; and thereupon ask'd my brother, who told me
 he could procure him some quantity within a week; in the mean time he cometh to ask
 for 2 or 3 of them. I went to my brother to know if he had any in the house, and he
 had some; and I brought from my brother above a dozen, whereof he had three, and
 for which I desired 6d. being pressed by him to receive money for them, which I gave
 my brother: a few days after he cometh for the remainder of the bookes he had bespoken;
 and as he was telling of them, I was called down, and seized by officers from my lord
 protector, who told me, they had a warrant to search my house for such papers; upon
 that I told them of all in my house; all which from first to last I did, not weighing the
 import of them. All men that know me know my affections to the present government.

Queries for his highness to answer to his own conscience.

By a wellwisher to the anabaptists prosperity, and all the rest of the separatists of England.

MY LORD,

A. D. 1654.

From a manuscript in the hand-writing of Henry Oldenburg, esq; in the possession of the reverend mr. William Clarke, canon-residentiary of Chichester.

THERE is some intelligence abroad, which I desire to communicate in a private way, lest I become a prey to the malice or envy of the ramping lion. The matter is this: it seems your highness being discoursing with a Scottish lord, who is called the lord Tweedale, you were pleased to say, that there was something amiss in the church and state, which you would reform as soon as may be: of those that were amiss in state, some were done, and the rest were a doing: and as for those things that were amiss in the church, you hoped to rectify by degrees, as opportunity presented itself; but before you could do this work, the anabaptists must be taken out of the army, and this you could not do with sharp corrosive medicines, but it must be done by degrees. From which there are two things observable: 1. The work. 2. The way you intend to do this work.

The work is churchwork. You intend to follow the steps of them that are gone before; which could not be content to meddle with state-affairs, and to make laws for the body or persons of men, but for the conscience too; and to make laws and statutes, and impose them on the people as rules of divine worship. And this is the work you intend to be at, under pretence of correcting error, and so to destroy truth. But who could have thought this, when you made your last speech to the parliament? when your tongue was so sweetly tip'd for the liberty of conscience, reproving the parliament for having a finger in their brother's conscience? Who could have imagined, that then heard you, you would have been at the same trade, unless he had supposed, a fountain could send forth sweet water and bitter?

The way you intend to take to bring about this design is twofold: 1. To purge the army of the anabaptists. 2. To do it by degrees. But, O Oliver, is this thy design? And is this the way to be rid of the anabaptists? And is this the reason, because they hinder the reforming the things amiss in the church? I confess, they have been enemies to the presbyterian church; and so were you, when you were at Dunbar in Scotland, or at least you seemed to be so by your words and actions; for you spake as pure independency as any of us all then, and made this an argument why we should fight stoutly, because we had the prayers of the independent and baptised churches.

So highly did you seem to love the anabaptists then, that you did not only invite them into the army, but entertain them in your family; but it seems, the case is altered. But do not deceive yourself, nor let the priests deceive you; for the anabaptists are men that will not be shuffled out of their birthrights, as freeborn people of England. And have they not filled your towns, your cities, your provinces, your castles, your navies, your tents, your armies, except that which went to the West-Indies, which prospers so well? Your court, your very council is not free; only we have left your temples for yourself to worship in. So that I believe it will be a hard thing to root them out, although you tell the Scottish lord, you will do it by degrees, as he reports.

May it please your highness, to consider what hath been said, and answer these ensuing queries to your own conscience.

1. Whether you had come to that heighth you are now in, if the anabaptists had been as much your enemies as they were your friends?

2. Whether the anabaptists were ever unfaithful either to the commonwealth in general, or to your highness in particular? And if not, then what is the reason of your intended dismissal?

3. Whether the anabaptists are not to be commended for their integrity, which had rather keep faith and a good conscience, although it may lose them their employment, than to keep their employment with the loss of both?

4. Whether the anabaptists did not come more justly into their employment in the army, than you came into the seat of government?

5. Whether, if the anabaptists had the power in their hands, and were as able to cast you out, as you were them, and they did intend it to you, as you do to them, whether your highness would not say they were all knaves?

6. Whether an hundred of the old anabaptists, such as marched under your command in 48, 49, 50, &c. be not as good as 200 of your new courtiers, if you were in such a condition as you were at Dunbar?

7. Whether your highness's court is not a greater charge to this nation than the anabaptists in the army? and if so, whether this be the case you promised the people?

8. Whether the monies laid out in the making of new rivers and ponds at Hampton Court might not have been better bestowed in paying the publick faith, or the anabaptists arrears before their dismissal? A. D. 1654.

9. Whether it is not convenient for the anabaptists to provide for their own safety, seeing from you they can expect none?

10. Whether it will be any more treason to fight for our liberties and civil properties in these days, if they be denied us, than it was to fight for them in the days of the king?

11. Whether the instrument of government be as the laws of the Medes and Persians, that alter not? If so, how is it, that mr. John Biddle is now a prisoner?

12. Whether your highness may not as well violate the whole instrument of government, as the 37th or 38th articles? If so, what security have the people for their liberty?

13. Whether our liberty doth not wholly depend upon your will and the will of a future protector, seeing the instrument of government is so little useful? If so, whether our condition be not as bad as ever?

14. Whether it will not be more abominable to the anabaptists or independents, or mr. Biddle, or any other professing faith in God by Jesus Christ, and are not disturbers of the civil peace, nor turn their liberty into licentiousness, to suffer for their conscience under your government, that promised liberty to such, than it was to have suffered under the king that promised them none?

15. Whether you will not appear a dreadful apostate and fearful dissembler, if you suffer persecution to fall upon the anabaptists or independents, or them of mr. Biddle's judgment, seeing you promised equal liberty to all?

16. Whether the old parliament was not turned out for leaving undone what they ought to have done? And if so, whether these things be done since?

17. Whether the little parliament was not turned out for doing that, which the other left undone, or taking away of tithes and other grievances? And if so,

18. Whether then you did not intend your own ends more than the nations good, in breaking the first parliament, and calling the second, and dissolving them all?

19. Whether the instrument of government was not preparing 8 or 9 days before the breaking up of the little parliament? and if so, whether you did not intend their dissolving?

20. Whether you did not tell a shameful untruth to the last parliament, saying, that you did not know of their dissolving, that is to say, the little parliament, till they came to deliver up their power to you?

21. Whether you did not put a slur upon the lord Lambert, when he should have gone lord lieutenant of Ireland, in telling the parliament, it favoured too much of monarchy; and so sent Fleetwood with a lower title?

22. Whether you do not intend to put another slur upon the lord Lambert, in sending for the lord deputy to come into England, to make him generalissimo of the armies in England, Scotland, and Ireland?

23. Whether it is not convenient for the lord Lambert to have an eye to your proceedings, lest by degrees you eat him out of all, as you intend to do the anabaptists?

24. Whether the excess or pride of your family do not call for a speedy judgment from heaven, seeing pride never goeth without a fall?

25. Whether the six coach horses did not give you a fair warning of some worse thing to follow, if you repent not, seeing God often forewarns, before he strikes home?

The conclusion.

MY LORD,

My humble request is, that you will seriously consider of these few lines; and take heed of casting away old friends for new acquaintance, as Rehoboam did, 1 Reg. xii. 8. who forsook the counsel of his good old friends, and consulted with his young courtiers; which caused the ten tribes to revolt from him.

And as it is a deadly sign of a speedy ruin, when a prince or a state casts off the interest of the people of God, as you may see in 2 Chron. xxiv. 17. how Joash forsook the people and house of God, and then his host fell before a few Assyrians, as you may see x. 24. and at last his own servants conspired against him, and slew him.

And therefore, O Cromwell, leave off this wicked design, to cast off the interest of the people of God, and let my counsel be acceptable to thee. Break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquity by shewing mercy to the poor, and it may be a lengthening of thy tranquillity; for it is not strength united with policy, but righteousness accompanied with strength, that must keep alive your interest with God and the people: and when both these die, that is to say, righteousness and sincerity, then adieu to thy greatness here, and thy eternal happiness hereafter.

An

An intercepted letter.

GOOD SIR,

A. D. 1654.
 Vol. xxxv.
 p. 133.

IT is affliction to the misery to bee deprived of youre company; for which I may justly blame my rashnes; but men in my condision are too often to hasty, for which I crave both youers and all my frinds pardon; but out of that evell, I prayse my God, good hath accrued; for that now haith given mee an opportunity to dooe that, which before I could not. This bearer, my singular good frind, can tell you what hapioned yesternight to mee, which I forbere to right, desiring you to give him credense, for I asure you, you may doe it without anie danger.

I have agreed with him for your relese; and if the monie can be procured, that formerly was named, I shall bee set free without ports. Good sur, consider my sad condision, for I have noe friend to speke to but youre selfe, and none that I can rely upone in the world for this but youre selfe. I am confident, you will doe your utermost; but be plesed to informe mee by your hand and none other. Youre answere, if hee cannot have answer now, set the time and plase. By what he shall tell you, you will perceive they intend to macke short work with mee, and try mee at a court marshall for inteligenſe. Wee must not expect justis, for I am informed by verie good frinds, they are resolut against mee.

The leter they found, and the character thay say I wrote, for that buufnes, the armes found, and to or 3 casleles, which was bought. The minors you ned not to feare, and things in that you say or right non to mee; so that I can by your menes; but all thinges must bee in redines. I pray you send mee five pound by hime, for I want. It must bee considered, whether that I shall gooe, when out here, for the present, untill the hubub bee over. They sware they will have all out mee for the litell I informed them, that I knoe it all, for thay swere to hange mee. Life is sweete: noe one will die, if possibell to prevent it. Yet I hope that God will inabell mee to quit my selfe licke an honest man. Good sur, anser these rude lines to

Feb. 13, 1654.

Your servant for ever.

*To sir Jo. Barkstead.**Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg, to the protector.*

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

Vol. xxxv.
 p. 138.

WERE I not enforced to it by the unreasonableness of a disaffected party in the English company here, I should judge my selfe utterly inexcusable for thus frequently interruptinge your highnes weighty affaires. Since I humbly accompted to your highnes by my addresse of the 9th of the last moneth, inclosed to mr. secretary Thurloe, in what manner your gracious letter to this company was entertained by that party, I am informed they have presented a petition or paper to your highnes, desireinge to come to their justification, pretendinge their persons and actions have been misrepresented by me and the well affected here; and to that end their leadinge man, and indeed the great disturber of the companie's peace, and the cheefe affronter of your highnes servant, one Francis Townley (beinge as it should seeme thereto advised by his abettinge freinds to prevent his being sent for by your highnes to answer his contempts) is gone hence for England, to endeavour with those of his faction their vindication. I am forrie they constrain me to be thus troublesome; but I hope your highnes goodness will pardon it, and please to looke upon the inclosed narratives of said Townley's deportment with those his cheefe associates and sticklers for him, and that partie, every particular whereof shall be fully proved, with many other passages of like nature, which are here omitted.

I most humbly beg that your highnes will please to order me a copy of their petition or paper exhibited, which some of that party here say contains a charge against me and the well affected, together with a special commission to examine witnesses, that I may make it appeare, that I have not wronged them in any my informations or complaints, nor that I presumed soe often to trouble your highnes but by their insolent enforcement.

Prayinge the Almightye still to blast the designs of your highnes's enemies, which by what I this day remit mr. secretary Thurloe, are advanceinge and ripeninge to some notable action, I humbly crave leave to subscribe my selfe

Hamburg, Feb. 13,
 1654.

Your highnes

most humble and faithfull servant,

RICHARD BRADSHAW.

2

Mr.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg, to Secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

THE inclosed will accompt to you the service the gentleman doth you where he is. A. D. 1654.
I shall expect your orders concerneinge the person he hath gained. In the meane
tyme to beget a relish, I shall, as is desired, take care by the very next opportunity to re-
mit him 10 or 12 l. and by my letter encourage him to the service. By this night's post
I hint foe much to monsieur Von Berg, and signify your order now received concerneinge
him. If you shall thinke fitt to order said Von Berg to the service, in which he conceives
he may be most usefull (and truly I doubt hee cannot longe be hid there) and engage the
other to continue there, till things be more fully discovered, imparting to me what can be
gained, I conceive it may in that way advantage most. This weeke there hath past many
strangers here. At one tyme there sate up in the wagons with the Denmarke post 14 all
muffled in capps, that not one of them could be knowne. Though 194 may probably
have influenc't the designe lately discovered, and by giveinge it fourth to have a considerable
party there for him hee may thincke to engage strangers to him; yet methincks the way
they seeme to take for effectinge their designe carryes noe great probabillity in it. I shall
doe the best I can to discover more of it, and as I finde, give notice from post to post.
From other hands I am allsoe informed, that for certaine 194 is very active, and hath great
hopes, notwithstandinge his highness knowes of the plot, to carry it on, but forewarned
is forearmed, as I trust you are to receive them. I shall pray God to detect and frustrate
your enemies, and use the utmost of my endeavours towards it, ever remayneinge, sir,

Hamburg, Feb. 13, 1654.

Your most humble servant,

From hence to Cullen is 4 dayes postage, and goes theither twice a weeke. I am forie
mr. Benson should deale foe with his freinds, but I hope you will take it into consideration,
how in honnour I stand engaged to mr. Acton by my recommendation of him, as he was
recommended to me by mr. Scot of the councill.

Capt. George Bishop to Secretary Thurloe.

MR. SECRETARY,

I AM very apprehensive of the immediate danger the interest of the commonwealth and
of the honest people in this citty are in at this present, through some designe of the
enemy very nere breakeing forth, and which to withstand wee are in noe capacity; nor is
the garrison in a condition to repulse a round salve from a valiant enemy. Through some
men's false representations, and the jealousies which usually accompany such times as these,
those whoe formerly were heer, throughout all our warrs, the happy instruments of this citty's
safety and the parts farr aboute, are utterly disenabled either to searh out, withstand, or
destroy any attempts against either; and the ill-affected heightned beyond expression, and
ready to act any mischeife, the Lord shall permitt them, without any controule or oppo-
sition. And hereupon I am much troubled to consider, what a sad advantage may suddenly
bee made of such a place as this, even to furnish an army with armes, ammunition, men,
mony, and other provisions of warr, besides the reputation of a city of this consequence,
full of trade, shippes, people, and riches. I am very wary in the least to hiperbolize in
things of this nature; and I am as cautious, how I conceale any thing, that may concerne
the publique safety, however it may be understood. The countenances of men have the
same aspect as formerly wee have experienced in such minutes as these; and wee see many
strangers, seemingly of quallity, comeing into the towne, and walking our streets. The
last night upon the occasion of the funerall of the lady Newton came in about 300 horse,
amongst whom were many cavileers, whoe endeavoured to put out the lights, that were
holden out by people, as they came in; and this day severall straingers of all sorts wee
have seen wearing green ribbons in their hatts; alsoe some men with scarves about their
necks, and shoes on their armes came into the city; and my selfe observed severall this
evening, whom I judged to be horsemen. The truth is, they may doe here what they
please, unlesse some supplies come timely to us; but wee expect the storme every minute. I
have endeavored to find out, if any working bee heere, though I must tell you, the dis-
countenance wee have received makes every thing difficult, if not impossible. The interest
and power of your old friend is quite lost and overthrowne. In time you will find, whether
they are friendes or no that have given occasion. If I can find out any thing, you shall un-
derstand it. Heretofore, when wee had the countenance and reputation of the state, wee were
blessed both with discovery and prevention; but now what the Lord will enable us to doe,

VOL. III.

R r

wee

A. D. 1654. wee know not; or whether in a few howers wee shall continue our beings. I suppose you have already intimations of Maffy's being lately in these parts, and his going towards Gloucester, and of one conceived to bee the duke of York on thursday at Marsfield. Therefore I shall mention nothing therein further, nor of any other occurrences at this time; desiring your excuse for these intimations, which in much hast out of love I have troubled you withall. I remayne

Your assured friend and servant,

Bristoll, Feb. 14, 1654.

GEORGE BISHOP.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxiii.
p. 278.

THIS week is com for Genoa, this place, and Civita Vecchia (the pope's port) at left 30 sail of Duch ships, with whom Ruyter's com for convoy, and tis certainly reported by that nation, that theyr states hav sent abroad to cal horn al theyr ships of war, as if they had som great bisnes in hand. Thes Itallians talk much, as if the Duch wer to join with the Spanyard. I hav had advys from Genoa, that the duke of Infantado a Spanyard has latly bin ther in his way to Millan, and much courted that state to a close frendship with Spayn, which althoh they hav bin most terribly abus'd, yet much of them hav such greate estates in that king's dominions, that they must per force assist him, and a couple of great Genowes ships, the one cald the Maribot, the other the St. George, ar now (under pretence of lading merchants goods for Lisbon) taking in armes and munition for Spayn, wherof, if any occasion presents, I shal giv general Blak notis, who may hapilly meet them going for Cales. 'Tis lykwys reported for certain, that the state of Genoa does now lend vast sums of mony to the Spanyard, without which he wer not able this spring to make any appearance. I hav seen a letter writ from Rom by a good hand, that the pope should say, the church would shortly be necessitated to sel her chalices, to maintayn her purple, except Cristian princes would join their forces together against the Lutherans. The Spanish Naples fleet coms not back againe for Naples, as was reported, but is gon to Cales, wher they continue to arm and unyt al their sea forces together. I am lykwys credibly informed, that the Duch marchants ships in thes seas ar resolved to entertain the Spanish servis in a sieming forct way, who putting in 200 or 300 soldiors upon them may mak them good men of war. In such a case a dozen good Inglish marchant ships may be taken up in thes parts lykwys to strengthen general Blak's fleet; for here will be many good ships, which wil be glad of the imploy. The pope is raising 6000 foot to strengthen his borders against the Modanes, whos duk is now upon his return, being made the king of France's generall for Italy. I latly drew upon you 690 l. being what I had disburst by your order for his hyhnes horses bouht at Naples, which I humbly desyre you to order its payment to mr. Geo. Smith, as I hope you hav don the former 50 l. paid mr. Bayly, which comply'd with wil mak me capable of serving you, and perpetually obliege

Leg. 25, Feb. 1655.
[N. S.]

Right honorable,

your most humble

and faithful servant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

The Spanish ambassadors to the protector.

MOST SERENE SIR,

Vol. xxxv.
p. 140.

IT is now almost four weeks since wee made the propositions to your hyghnes contained in the paper wee left with you in the pryvate audience your highnes was pleased to grant us; and they beeing of condition, that to bee put in execution it depends uppon the brevity of tyme, wee have solicited your answer to them dyvers tymes, and desyring still to have it, wee have thought fitt to have recourse to your hyghnes yourself, and request you to be pleased, that it may be given us without farther delay; since, besydes what wee alledge, I the marques of Lede, cannot delay my returne to Flanders any longer tyme, then what is necessary to know your highnes intention; the command and charges I beare there, and the necessity of my prefence to discharge myne obligation, and accomplish the king my master's orders, obligeing mee to hasten my departure hence. God Almighty keep the most serene person of your hyghnes.

The secretary of the Spanish ambassadors to secretary Thurloe.

HONORABLE SIR,

HAVING acquainted my lord ambassador with your honour's paper, he hath com-
manded me to give you thanks for your favour in offering to come at ten of the
clock upon saturday morning at his house, where his excellency will be ready to receive
your honour. I remaine, sir,

A. D. 1654.

Vol. xxxv.

p. 141.

February 15, 1655.

Your honor's

most humble servant,

EGIDIO MOTTET.

Estevan Gamarra to Alon. de Cardenas, the Spanish ambassador in England.

Hague, February 26, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

I Have received your letter of the 19th. This state hath appointed commissioners to
treat with me upon the points, which I propounded in my last audience. We have
not yet begun through the absence of the pensionary of Holland, who is one of my com-
missioners. The states of Holland are called together against the 8th of the next month.
In the mean time I wish you happiness, and shall continue to give you an account of my
proceedings from time to time.

Vol. xxiii.

p. 127.

The information of John Bendish in the said county, gent. taken upon oath, Feb. 16, 1654, before John Pell and Edmund Cremer, esqrs; justices of the peace for the said county.

WHO saith, that about a fortnight before Christmas last past, he this informant being
in company with one William Cobbe of Castle-rising, gent. at the house of one
John Osborne of King's Linn poulterer, upon conference with one Ediny Barlyclorne, by
whom (as he hath informed this informant) the said William Cobbe hath had 2 bastards,
he this informant (after the said Ediny her complaint, how he had wronged her in that
kind, and some other ways) did hear the said William Cobbe say, is that such a great mat-
ter to have a bastard, for my lord protector's eldest son hath had a bastard, and he must hold
up his hand at the bar for it? And this informant farther saith, that upon the 20th day
of January last past he this informant going to speak with the said mr. Cobbe in Castle-
rising aforesaid, where he was at the house of 3 popish maids, living in the farm of the
said William Cobbe in Castle-rising aforesaid, he the said William Cobbe did then and
there say, that this is the 20th day of January, and before the 20th day of March next he
the said William Cobbe did look to see my lord protector hanged. And at another time a
little before Christmas last past, he the said informant coming with the said William Cobbe
from the town of Lynn aforesaid, did hear the said William Cobbe (he having then a but-
toned cap on his head) say, that he hoped to wear the said buttoned cap longer then my
lord protector should live; for he was a brewer, and made choice of no gentlemen, but
brewers, and such as were journeymen justices like himself; and did use other reproachful
speeches about the turning out of the last parliament.

Vol. xxiii.

p. 105.

JOHN BENDISH.

This is a true copy examined,

JOHN PELL,

EDM. CREMER.

The information of Bevis Makeham of Castle-rising, cordwainer, and now one of the constables of the said town, taken upon oath Feb. 16, 1654, before John Pell and Edm. Cremer, esqrs; justices of the peace for the said county.

WHO saith, that about the third day of January last past, when as the said justices
had a meeting concerning the tythes substracted by one William Cobbe of Castle-
rising, gent. from the now incumbent William Calvert, and rector of the said town of
Castle-

A. D. 1654. *W* Castle-rising; he this informant being in company with the said William Cobbe, did then and there hear the said William Cobbe (after some abuses of this informant concerning his office) declare, that it was he the said William Cobbe, that did say, that there were journeymen justices in the other room, and wished him to go in, and tell the said justices (then and there sitting) so much; and that he would maintain it and prove it.

This is a true copy examined,

JOHN PELL,
EDM. CREMER.

BEVIS MAKEHAM.

The information of William Lacy of North-Wotton in the said county of Norfolk, taken the day and year abovementioned, before the said justices.

*W*HO faith, that about the 23d day of December last past, one William Cobbe of Castle-rising, gent. coming into the house of this informant, and amongst his railing discourfes against the said Edm. Cremer, one of the justices abovementioned, he the said William Cobbe did then and there say, that one mr. Calvert (now rector and incumbent in the parish of Castle-rising aforesaid) must get some more journeymen justices, than the said mr. Pell and the said mr. Cremer, for they would soon be tired.

This is a true copy examined,

JOHN PELL,
WM. CREMER.

WILLIAM LACY.

The examination of William Cobbe of Castle-rising in the said county, gent. taken February 18, 1654, before John Pell and Edm. Cremer, justices of the peace for the said county.

*W*HO faith, as concerning the information given by John Bendish of Rogdon, gent. against the said William Cobbe, he the said William Cobbe doth utterly deny all and every the particulars charged against him to be true.

And he also further faith, that the informations of Bevis Makeham of Castle-rising; as also the information of William Lacy of North-Wotton abovementioned, as to his the said William Cobbe his intentions, to be utterly false.

This is a true copy examined,

EDM. CREMER,
JOHN PELL.

WM. COBBE.

A letter of information to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxiii.
p. 131.

*Y*esterday 1000 declarations were directed to be brought for my friend to the house of one Stevens a Taylor in Black-friers, a man of whome I have made much use, in order to discover what I thought might be for the service of his highnes and the commonwealth; and he hath bin and may be still very usefull to that end. He is now gone into Leicestershire and Warwickshire, to observe what is doing by the ... of ... and the rest thereabouts, whereof I shall have a true account, and your selfe from me. I pray be pleased to give such order, that Stevens may not be apprehended att his returne, nor the goods kept from him, if any where in his house, because it would much hinder my endeavours and hopes of doing you service. I would undertake, that if you would speake with him att any time, that he shall waite upon you.

February 16, 1654.

Extract of an intercepted letter.

Vol. xxiii.
p. 135.

*I*T is reported the king of Spayne is at Cadiz fitting his Armado in haft, and getting souldiers downe, as if he would follow gen. Pen; but doe beleewe cannot gett any considerable strength; and beydes G. Blake is come downe agayne, I beleewe to wayte on their motions.

Plimouth, Feb. 16. 1654.

From Tym. Alfop to Moses Gudyere's letter.

I

Copy

Copy of a letter from Argier to mr. Richard Casson.

SIR,

MY last was of the 15th of January 1655. by mr. William Cooke, and the divan sent also to my lord protector of England, Scotland, and Ireland. I sent to you concerning all particulars. Five days since I was before the divan and the king about Englishmen, that were taken by the Turks in strangers vessels; and after examination known to be Englishmen, and born in London, they gave them free to us; and desired of me news from England. So I told them, England was a great way off, and it was a thing impossible for to get an answer not yet this month, of which they were satisfied, and desired me to write home to England to the states for to have an answer. So having no friend in London, I desire you, that you would do me that favour, as to direct this my letter to the right owner, and presently after the receipt of this you would go to mr. Thomas Bromfield; for I directed my letter to him to have it closed up, and set the superscription on it after it was sealed, for I am unacquainted with any of the commissioners of the navy, and I shall remain an obliged servant to you in any service you shall command me. For your uncle's goods it is all as it was, not one farthing lost, but remains in my hands, and in the house. Three days since I was before the king, and he used me very courteously, and told me, he did hope to see a consul settled in Argier, as hath been formerly; and for the preservation of the peace they are all agreed upon it, and will not be the occasion of breaking it; but saith they have a firm league with the English, and do hope to enjoy it to the world's end. So said all the divan. I desire your answer as soon as possibly you can concerning your uncle's goods. So having nothing else at present, rest

Argier, Feb. 17. 1655.

Your servant at command,

ABRAHAM SMIDMORE.

The original of this I received the 9th of May 1655.

R. C.

Mr. J. Berkenhead to secretary Thurloe.

[Barbadoes, February 17, 1654.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOR,

I Shall forbear to trouble you with the time of our shippinge, or what happened in our voyage, onely this great truth, which we cannot omitt, that neer men had a better passage hitherto (blessed bee his holy name, who hath thereby given us as it were an earnest of what he intends us in our future successes) and not only soe, but hath hitherto soe preserved us in our health, that our voyage lost us not 20 men, that we can heare of; nor are we subject to diseases as we yet find; but every day as we stay, we find ourselves fitter for the country; and for my owne part, I must ingeniously acknowledge, that for the climat wee are in, would as willingly live in it as that of my nativity, excepting that natural love, that every one hath to that, which brought him forth. We tooke shipping that day we hold to be our Saviour's birth-day, and on the 28th of January our rear admirall's squadron came into the Barbados harbour, which went a weeke at least away before us from Portsmouth; and on the 29th we being the generall's squadron came in likewise; but being somewhat late before we came in, we staid till the morrow before we landed; which we no sooner did but our generall with the rest of the commanders fell hot to worke, sparing nor paines nor service, but forthwith tooke care for the quartering of our souldiers, and rayfing our men in the island, where they are very well entertained, though some of the planters being of malignant spiritts (as indeed most of them are) signifie their follyes in venting their calumnious words against not onely the designe, but the powers by which we come, and the parties employed in it; for which like words one Evans a islander and le-veller was called to a court martial, from whence he made his appeale to the civill magistrate; and after the busines being debated by our commanders, they appointed certain persons of the island to sitt upon him by a commission of oyer and terminer, and have onely adjudged him (since the treason could not handsomly be made out) to stand on the pillory the next market day for an houre, and six months imprisonment after. We had at our landing two disorderly persons, who beinge drunk quarrelled one with the other, and almost destroyed themselves; for which offences and severall others our court martiall have provided soe regularly and carefully, that thos of most suspected principles for such kind

VOL. III.

S f

of

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiii.
p. 139.

V. xxxvii.
P. 43.

A. D. 1654. of actions are now become very orthodox and subject to discipline, so that I hope a short time will render us fitter for our employments then was by some supposed. On Tuesday February 6, our generall and commissioners went aboard generall Pen, where they continued till night, and there made instructions for captain Butler, one of our five commissioners, lieutenant colonell Holdup and captain Blagge of the Marston Moore frigate commissioners, who were to goe to the Leeward islands at St. Christopher's and to raise men there; and that night being fitted with instructions set sayle, but what they have done as yet we heare not. On Friday February 9, we kept a solemn day of humiliation, and next day fell to our busines, every one in his own sphere. We found the islanders to come in something chearefully, they being free men, but not of meane estates; but the rich planters, except some few, endeavour all they can to dishearten the men from goeing. Yet for lacke of our shippes, which hath some of our men in (as the great Charity, &c.) armes, ammunition, and other necessaries, we are something disheartened, the islanders either concealing what they have, or being not able to afford a quarter armes for our men: and we came so badly armed from England, that we often (and I am sure I speak within compasse) are not armed with such as Englishmen use to fight with; and in the meane time we lye still, eatinge up the island, and our shippes eatinge up their provisions; soe that had we not had some good fortune by taking some Dutch prizes, who contrary to the articles of peace betwixt the two nations made here, we might have been at a losse. Nevertheless our officers and souldiers are highly bent upon action, and wish to be gonne with such armes they have, our generall's care being soe much, that he hath provided great numbers of half pikes, though at a larger length then ordinary, for they are ten foote long; many of them (which may cause your wonder) are made of cabadge-stalks; I mean of the trees in Barbados, which bear cabages, and this for lack of better wood. They are not all handsome, nor will they long be serviceable, but such as our necessities will admit to furnish ourselves with. Indeed our general hath scarce time for his natural rest, being all day with the commissioners; and when risen, much of the night after he spends with the army-officers, soe that we can at present but looke upon him with pitty, though blessed be God his strength continues firme, his resolution high, and his spiritts active and chearful, giving great satisfaction both to officers and souldiers. Nor is there any faction at all amongst us, every one hitherto shewing himselfe a faithful souldier and a true Englishman; but we have lately found the devill's endeavours to have his chapel amongst us, which we shall teare up by the roots; for I have made a discovery of certain papists in our armie, to the number of one hundred and fifty, which came out of England, and most of the regiments which came out of the Tower, which were raised in hast, and put into colonell Butler's. Besides there are certain Irish papists, which were listd in this island since our coming, which we are now purging ourselves of. We have likewise in our fleet many (as I am credibly informed) anabaptists that doe in their speeches justifie admiral Lawsons late actings, that he was questioned for, and especially one captain Newbury of the Portland frigate, who denies the Trinity, and are so violent in prosecuting their way of worship and their owne opinions, that they come on shore, and make profelites, and get soe many of their owne sort into into the army, as they can; as particularly one captain Martiall, whos company is most of the late profelites raised in this island, and himself likewise. There are certaine companies also, who have many of them in; and whether this be designe or no, you may by this enclosed judge their practice of their church in England, this being a letter found amongst captain Newbury's papers, and directed to him. The fleet can spare us a handfom proportion of armes (such as they are) but not near sufficient, since our regiments neare, if not fully compleated, which you will see more at large by the musters, and I doe thinke never musters were more truly made then now. We have likewise a very gallant Regiment of sea men, consisting of 1080 men, all gallantly armed, and for the time indifferently well exercised. The colonell is vice-admiral Goodson, the lieutenant colonell captain Benjamin Blake of the Gloucester frigate, the major captain Blagg of the Marston-Moore, and thes with the rest of the officers and souldiers are very unanimous for our land service, captain Kirby of the Beare petitioning he might be one to goe on shore; all which I hope will prove very effectual, since their officers useth so much care and pains with them. As for our regiments, they are exercised regimentally two days in the week, onely colonell Morris his regiment, which cannot have the like conveniency of meeting, for that it consists of planters, and therefore as yet live at their owne dwellings. Colonell Morris himself is not very chearful in the designe, and the reason I know not, unlesse he be over entreated by his wife, who hath (as their . . .) been very importunate with him to leave the voyage; but since I heare for certaine, that he demands a great sume of monies to pay his debts with, which our generall in justice cannot grant. He is some hundreds sterling indebted to the state, which would be forgiven him; but that he hoalds not satisfactory; for whereas the island is indebted to his highnes, he would have so much out of that, as may amount to his demanded sum, alledging that the island will demand nothing for quartering our soldiers; which carries so much (in my judgment) of injustice in it, that I dare

dare say our commissioners will never grant it, for it's conceived when accounts are cast up A. D. 1654.
of what this island owes his highnes, and what we have indamaged them, at a certain rate by quarter, there will be little or no difference. Indeed the gentleman is very well approved of, and questionless very fit for this designe, and very faithful to our interest; but how farr his wife may prevaile with him, by ingaging him to alk such things as cannot be granted, I shall not say, though she be observed to be very powerful and younge. I must confess our general is very ready to answer his request in what justice will admit of, but to pay twelve hundred pounds sterling is much. In colonell Butler's regiment there hath been divers quarrels amongst the officers, though taken up by the collonel. Their affections are various, and a disaffection generally, which makes me to think of the number of papists in his regiment, that that may worke this disaffection. Indeed the gentleman himself is stout, loves applause and flattery; and if there be any persons, that would seeme to disrelish our general proceedings, something he hath to say on their behalfe, and all the reason I could ever find, he judgeth himself the elder collonel. Now would envy or malice imploy their chiefeft agents, I am confident they must destroy themselves in speaking against our generall, he is so justly and temperatly discreet and active, so conscionably just and careful to relieve the oppressed, that truly we are thereby (if possible it could be) in a greater tye of duty to his highnes for making such a rich provision for us in him; for he lays his shoulders so much to the work in hand, that we are sometimes afraid, lest he overturn himself; for his rest is hardly 4 hours most nights. And for our major generall, he hath, God knows, payd already very deare for his voyage, having both on ship board and on shoar most pitiful fits of the stone; but we hope it is over, though his pain was great, yet would he in spite thereof be acting. And for collonel Fortescue, his careful temper is such, that none knows him in our armie, fleet, or island, but honour him. His regiment at present is upwards of a thousand. And truly collonel Carter, I can say no lesse of him, and cannot but eye providence in giving us such godly examples as our greatest officers are. Our ministers are likewise very able, nor doe they spare any paines in their callinge. We have had lately a tryal, which hath given us a further tast of our general's religion and justice; to wit, a man brought from other parts a certain number of Indian Christian protestants, and haveing found them faithful in his life, at his death he left them all freemen. But the intollerable basenes of this island is such in that point, that they rather strive to keepe their slaves in ignorance, thereby thinking to make them hopelesse of freedom; nor make they any conscience at all of killinge their slaves, doggs and they being in one ranke with them. But let me not digresse; for on the behalfe of these Indians there was an honest man, that appeared and prosecuted on their behalves, finding after our coming a free course of justice (the lack of which was complained of before, and I doubt too truly) and upon a full heareing of the busines, the Indian Christians were set free, after they had all been destroyed by oppression except five. It would greeve your heart to talke with the nigor slaves in the island, and especially with thos that are most ingenious, with whom I have had some discourse; and asking them, whether they know God, they sayd noe. I asked them, whither they went when they died; they said to the ground, and noe whither else. So that observe they are absolute atheists, worshipping nothing, being taken off their owne naturall superstitious worships. I asked them, why they would not be Christians? They sayd, they could get no body to teach them. I asked them, whether they were willing to learne? They said, with all their hearts, which I must confess stricke me to the heart. Here's in the island one collonel Moodiford and mr. Nowell, secretary to the island's affairs, who are hugely distastd by this island; for that they two, as the islanders say, did invite our forces over hither, which our islanders are generally against. I have here inclosed a list of the prises taken before and since our coming. I must now returne my real acknowledgmet of thos high and unmerited favours I have received from your honour as well formerly as at present; for according to your honour's desire and assurance of me of the scoutmaister's place, it is now performed, and I have my commission; for which in yours to him, which I suppose wil be by the next, I humbly beg your thanks to him. I further beg your favour in commanding some of your servants to send what foraigne but especially Spanish intelligence you thinke fit; and what instructions further than what you have already given me, they shall be fully observed by him, who desires no longer to live than he is,

May it please your honour,

your honour's in all humility

and faithfulness devoted,

J. B.

The

The examination of Ellen Aske.

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiii.
p. 141.

THAT mr. Rogers told her, that one Rachel or Abigal — that lives about the Tower, is very intimate with a gentleman, that waits constantly on his highness, and usually at his elbow, when he is in his chair at dinner, that publishes all he hears or knows to be done in his highness's family to the said Rachel or Abigal.

That mr. Aske, now in the Elizabeth of London at Gravesend, who is conceived to be sent away to-morrow, hath a list of the names of all those, that subscribed for the raising of horse against his highness and this present government.

The said mr. Aske only named major general Harrison, Rogers, Feake, and one that was a commander in some great place, that should have been the commander in chief, but he could not remember his name, nor the names of many others.

That one mr. Suetman, a silkman, living betwixt Cheapside, going down to Queen-hith, reviles his highness much in language, and calls him apostate; and that God did forbid to pray for him.

One Rebecca Sturgeon or Spurgeon, at the sign of the Angel at London-bridge, told this examinee, that she must be one of them, that must pluck down Cromwell; and she would tell him so to his face.

Many other particulars she told me of horses, that were bought for that purpose, and to be lodged in the town, to be put in execution by way of surprize; but I could not find any thing more to fix you any person either by name or place; but insisted much upon the list, which mr. Aske hath.

This examination was taken
Feb. 17, 1654, by me
Ro. NELSON.

A letter of Ellen Askee.

Vol. xxiii.
p. 151.

MR. R. NELSON,

MAY it please your worships to acquaint his highness, that in conscience bond I should my selfe to be faithfull to the commonwealth of England; and though I once was, as I confesse, in my carnall condition, I was for the king's party, and did for many yeres together know of the greatesse designs of wicked men, and am able to discover many of my lord's deedly and destructive enemyes; and those that latly upon a fast day in London did gather together in a place that I can discover, because then there present, and did there most strangely rayle against his highness, and said the plague of God confound him, calling him round-headed dogge, I would I had his flesh between my teeth, and much more as bade; if my lord be pleased but to employ me in freedome to give in the names of those, that did soe say, and one of them said, now hee is gone to pray, lett us goe charge and bind him.

Furder, I have harde of a secrett plot of many, who resolve to have a runing army against my lord his highness for blood, and have, as I understand, horses bought redy for that purpose, and my frinde, and I hope faithfull man to my lord, Isaac Welles doath know the man. Tho' I confesse he be now not there, yet if my lord will grante me libertie, I shall be faithfull upon my life to discover his name to my lord, if he shall be pleased but to grante me libertie to speake with himselfe; but I am afraid to speake to any in the world but him or your worship; upon which if my lord will employ Isaac Welles to goe to the partie, which I confesse can discover very much of this greatesse plott, which doath I feare drawe nere to be executed by a people called a g monirchy peopll, and that there is a gentillwoman, who did tell me, that that worke would not be accomplished, untill she went, for she should be one of them, that should pull him downe, or helpe downe with him, was the word saide. Whereas I am'afraide to speake with any but my lord or your worshipp; the reason of it is, because there are in my lord's house or thereunto belonging them, that doe declare to mr. Rodgeres and soe to mr. Pheake and oatheres, what almost soever is spoken in my lord's one house. I being not longe since a herer of John Rodgeres did understand much, and had almost bine destroyed or swalowed up with delusions, that my lord was not a man that stood for truth and peace.

Soe with my humble service presente to you,
desireing you to doe in this what God shall
instruct you to doe, I reast your sarvant,

ELLEN ASKE.

Mr.

Capt. George Bishope to secretary Thurloe.

MR. SECRETARY,

SUCH was the dangerous condition of this place, in reference to the publique, that I could not but give you some account thereof the last post, though in much haste and rudeness. In the same posture wee continue, though att present quiett, yett every houre expecting a very great storme to fall, unless the Lord hath pleased to dash their designs, of which, nor how things are, have wee any account; not a letter from any coming this post to the officers of the garrison, or to my selfe, or other friends.

You might perhaps thinke mee too affectionate in what I represented of danger here; but knew you this citty, and the parts aboute it, and how easily in a very few daies an army of 20000 horse and foote might bee raised and furnished with all thinges, and in what a preparedness, without any thing to make any considerable resistance, the hearts of men are to serve such a designe, you would as much hasten to secure it as any citty in England, except London, and bee more forward therunto then any here to desire you.

The towne hath still many strangers in it, whom wee have cause much to suspect. The green ribbons with an eye of white appeare still in manie of their hatts; but the more considerable sort appeare little but at night, since the mayor and aldermen on thursday in the afternoon sent the constables (whoe are many of them malignants) to see what strangers were in publique houses, an intimation sufficient to make them abscond. The last night an honest person overheard two gallants say to each other, what should wee care for a few souldiers, since thou knowest wee have 500 ready? They now shift quarters, and the meaner sort appeare with swords, they wearing none at first; and when at night any lights come by, some, whoe seem to bee of quallity, they pull their hatts over their eies, and soe have been observed.

Though the port hath had his highness order to stopp suspicious persons, yet within two or three dayes some Irish rebels, whoe have been at Spayn, and returned, were permitted to depart for Ireland. It is now more strickt, and noe doubt manie dangerous persons haveinge recourse hither, upon discovery made of their designs, might (upon this stopp) bee secured, were there here a force sufficient, the garrison being soe weake, that it dares not attempt it, least the multitude flie out, and all be endangered. Whilst contrivances are, and matter for designs you will see it much conducing to safetie, that soe considerable a place as this as to all thinges bee in a constant condition of security; and those, whoe otherwise represent it, you'll find them at long run (perhaps when it is too late) noe friends to the publique. Pardon my plaines, and this trouble, which I could not omitt out of my affections to the comonwealth. I am,

Bristoll, Feb. 17, 1654.

Sir,

your assured friend and servant,

GEORGE BISHOPE.

Mr. Nelson to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Intended to have waited on you my selfe by 6 in the morninge, but findinge, that my servant Isaac Welles did speake with you soe happilie this lord's day, I have sent by him the inclosed examination of mrs. Afke, with the letter sent to me. Sir, I desire to let you know, that he is faithfull, and if he may be serviceable to his highnesse or yourselfe in this or any thinge else, sir, I beseech you comand him or me to the uttermost power of

Martin's Lane, Feb. 18, 1654.

Your most humble servant,

ROBERT NESLON.

Mr. John Pell and mr. Edmund Cremer to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

WE having received late informations upon oath, that William Cobb of Castle-rising in the county of Norfolk, gent. hath uttered divers scandalous speeches, tending to the subversion of the government now established in this commonwealth, and this coming to our knowledge in this juncture of time, when eminent dangers have been discovered

VOL. III.

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that

A. D. 1654. **W**hat threaten generall ruin, if not prevented; we thought it our duties to secure the party delinquent in the castle of Norwich, and render an account by the first post to his highness and his councill of our doings therein. In pursuance whereof we have taken upon us the boldness to present you with a true copy of the said informations, humbly beseeching you, that his highness and councill may have intelligence thereof and of our proceedings therein; and that you would vouchsafe to communicate unto us their censure of our actions, with directions, what further service they will be pleased to command us therein.

What we have done is out of the duty we owe to the safety of the commonwealth, which we hope will be resented and approved of.

The delinquent is evidently disaffected to the peace of this commonwealth, and the officers employed for the preservation of the same.

This is all at present, but the tender of our humble duties to his highness and his honorable council, with our prayers to God for the continuance of the peace and welfare of this commonwealth, which the utmost of our powers shall be endeavoured to be performed by

Your honour's most humble servants,

Feb. 18, 1654.

JOHN PELL,
EDM. CREMER.

Sir Robert Stone to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxiii.
p. 165.

I Heare thay ar in towne, but Moris my owld servant will not see me, nor dede hee the laste time he was in towne, which made me suspect him, heringe Norwoode was claped up, and the Litiltens. Where they lie, hee would not say to the partie that towld mee. I beleeve will indeavour to speake with those in prison. If I ware att libertie, I mak no doubght but to here of them; howeever I shall doe my beste by reson hee is so active. Moris said, being asked, whie his master changed his name, because his other was odious; which is all att present from

Sir,

Feb. 18, [1654.]

Your very humble servant,

ROBERT STONE.

Mr. G. Forfington to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxiii.
p. 173.

THIS day early in the morneinge I came into Salisbury, where I mett a partie of horse, which come from Winsor by your highnes commaund, and after some discourse which I and a quartermaster which commaunded them had, our meetinge here fell out to be one and the same busines; uppon which we went unto the postmaster's house, and haveing mett with him, we directed our discourse concerninge coll. Sacksbey, in which we tooke him aparte, and told him the fadd consequence, which would follow, if he knew where he were, and would deny him; but could not gett any acknowledgment from him, that he knew where he was, or had hard from him a long tyme; soe that he is gone backe to Winsor with that partie of horse, according to your highnes order. I am informed by some of the inhabitants of this cittie, that it would be convenient for some horse to be quartered hereabouts, for there hath byn some, which have not byn ashamed to shew themselves in young Tarquin's cullours, and alsoe here hath byn severall declarations scattered upp and downe theise parts (as I am informed by creditable and honest persons.) The tendencie thereof is to exasperate the spiritts of the people against your highnesse and your proceedings. But I humbly conceive and judge this thing rather to be reliects of major Wildman's familie. I have made it my endeavours since my comeing forth to try the spirits of the people as to theise present tymes, and I must confesse really, I have not mett any that I have found dissatisfied either with your person or with your proceedings; for all the feare that is uppon the spirits of the generallitie of the people, is, that if God deale otherwise then well with you, whether or noe they may ever enjoye the like; for theire great feare was, that your highnes would lay heavy burthens on them as by way of tax; but now that they see there is noe such thing intended, but to levy that 60000*l.* a moneth, they goe on very chearfully to the rayseing of that in theise parts, and I find the people very well contented to pay it, and doe pray it may never be rayfed higher. I intend my journey, God willing, from hence to Marleboroughe, where I intend to have some discourse with major Butler, and alsoe to inquire out for one mr. Cox, whoe liveth in that towne;

towne; the which I am informed by a very creditable person of good repute in this cittie, A. D. 1654. that he hard from Cox his owne mouth, that he should speake with coll. Sacksbey in Somersetshire, and that coll. Sacksbey should tell this Cox, that there was to have byn a riseinge in Somersetshire; and that he hard there should be a partie of horse sent downe from your highnes, for the suppressing of them, and should have byn in Salisbury saterday last to quarter there. I thinke it may be convenient, that your highnes send downe an order by the next post to me, that in case I should meete with him in my journey, I might have sufficient power for the apprehending of him. This beinge uppon my thoughts at present, I commend you to the protection of the allmightie, and remayne

Your assured servant to be commaunded,

Sarum, Feb. 19, 1654.

G. FORSINGTON.

Confession of Thomas Frere.

In Aprill, 1654.

- I**N the John and Susan, captain John Lymbery, 6 pair snaphance pistalls, Vol. xxiii. p. 189.
- April 1654. In the Union, captain John Phenny, 10 pair snaphance pistalls, and 10 snaphance muskitts.
- April 1654. In the Samuel, Thomas Gates, 12 matchlock muskitts, 12 snaphance pistalls, and 24 swords.
- April 1654. In the Paramore, captain Joseph Ward, 8 snaphance muskitts, 4 carbines, 12 snaphance pistalls, 1 fowling piece, 24 swords.
- May 1654. In the Goodhope, captain East, 12 swords, to mr. Richard Proud, for Guinea.
- Septem. 1654. In the Peter and Anne, William Chamlitt, 12 pair snaphance pistalls, to Thomas Haslewood, for Richard Stobert in the Barbadoes.
- Novem. 1654. In dito shipp, 12 pair snaphance pistalls, to Edward Davis for Stobert.
- Novem. 1654. In the Francis and Joyce, captain Joseph Maynard, 30 swords, 10 pair snaphance pistalls, to captain John Frere.
- Novem. 1654. In dito shipp, 16 pair snaphance pistalls, to Roger Poole for Richard Stobert.

And severall other pares, and two pares of pistalls sould to severall men, with fowling peeces and muskitts, whose names we know not.

This I doe owne as the truth.

Whitehall, Feb. 20, 1654.

Per THOMAS FRERE.

A letter to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Paris, March 3, 1655. [N. S.]

THE hopes of seeing you here are soon changed; and the news, which you send me in yours of the 22d of the last month, doth cause me to believe, that your business will not be done so soon as you expected, since your island doth dispose itself to become suddenly the theatre of the new and dreadful revolutions. As for the commotions of France, they never happen but once in an age; and if you will recall your memory upon our histories, you will find this to be a truth; but England is not so stable and constant; and one might say of it, with more justice than what Tacitus speaketh of the Frenchmen, *quietis impatiens, novorum avida*; and I do not admire at the presages of those novelties and commotions in that island, and at this conjuncture, the government of that state being put upon them by their force and violence; and it is impossible it can subsist without some notable change and revolution.

My brother writes me from Rome, that there is a great likelihood, that the consistory will hold a great while, since they cannot agree about the choice of a pope.

The consistory doth consist of 66 cardinals. The cardinal Barbarini hath had 36 votes the rest have had some, but none of them so many.

Yesterday died the duke of Rohan Chabot, a very good roman catholick, notwithstanding the persuasions of his wife.

Mr.

Mr. Thomas Wilfon to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiii.
p. 207.

YOUR'S I received this evening, as also that dated upon saturday last, and am very much troubled (and have beene ever since the receipt of your's upon the Lord's day) at Wright's being released, especially considering that perticular bloody designe you mention.

Sir, I confesse I wrote not immediately to your selfe or the councill, of haveing this Wright in custodie heere, but I presume the governor did let you understand so much, I giveing an account unto him constantly of every person that came over, and whome I secured, and this Wright among the rest, about a weeke agoe, and that which gave me the jealousye to secure him, which was a desire to returne backe from whence he came, and speedily to returne hither (as he pretended) on his merchandizinge affaires from Rotterdam; whereupon I told him, he gave me a just ground for suspition, and that I would secure him, untill I returned his name and carriage, whereat I perceived a trouble of spirit upon him, therefore was the more carefull of him; but upon the commissioners receipt of that commission from his highnes, that Wright amongst the rest, (I being not then present with the commissioners, nor they knowing any thing against him, that gave them ground of suspition, and the said mr. Day whom in your last you mention) ingeaging for him, and signifieinge to the commissioners his knowledge of him (as the commissioners told me, after I had shewed them your's dated saturday last, of which they were very sorry and sensible) was released. I wish with all my heart I had beene there, but there was a crosse providence therein. I trust the Lord will graciously disappoint his horrid intentions. I must confesse, of all the men that ever I secured, both formerly and now, at first I was not more unsatisfied in a man, then in him; but I hope it will be a faire warning for the future to us all, that have to doe therein.

Sir, I shall let the gentlemen understand, what his highnes pleasure is in relation to the revokeing of his last order to them, and I shall improve my utmost care and diligence to observe the contents of the former order, and to let you receive a constant account of all persons, which are to be staide and secured, as that order directs and injoynes. Sir, be pleased to excuse this lardge returne: I conceived it both my duty and necessary: those persons yet in custodie heere (of which I have given you an account by the governor) shall be safelie kept, untill I know your pleasure concerning them. Not haveing else further to give you trouble, I remayne,

Honoured sir, your's faithfully to serve you,

Dover Castle, Feb. 21,
1654.

THOMAS WILSON.

P O S T S C R I P T.

SIR,

This night there came from Callis, in the French packett-boate, three passengers, one Peter Middlethorp, a Dutch merchant in Hamborough, who is going to London about his occasions there, as he pretends. Hee is well knowne to mr. Youngrix, a merchant in Dover, and hath ingaged under his hand for his safe abideing in towne heere, untill I receive an order or answere from you about him.

As also one Nicholas Vust, a Dutch merchant in Hamborough, knowne to the said mr. Youngrix, who hath also ingaged for him as aforesaid.

There is also one Gabriel Delatta, a French merchant in Callis, gone to London about his merchandizeing, very well knowne to one mr. Nephew in towne, who will ingage for his safe abideing heere untill your answer.

Sir, you were pleased in one of your letters to me to vouchsafe that extension in the execution of the former warrant from his highnes, if any merchant in towne know them, for their passinge; but however this is safer (if you shall so judge it) to take their engagement for their safe custodie, untill I give you notice. If you shall approve thereof, it shall be duely observed by,

Sir, your most humble servant,

THOMAS WILLSON.

SIR,

The description of the said Wright is inclosed in a letter he wrote to sir Robert Stone, to indeavour his enlargement. If you judge it fitt to consult sir Robert Stone and mr. Delavall (merchant heere) what knowledge they have of him (Delavall is often at the exchange now in London) it may give you a further light of him.

The said Nicholas Wright is a pretty full and somewhat ruddy fac't man, of a middle stature, about 35 or 36 yeares of age, havinge a deepe browne hair, short beard, his haire on his head and face much of a colour. He pretended his busynes to Newcastle to settle his family there; that he came from Rotterdam, being a merchant there; that mr. Delavall, merchant in Dover, well knowes him.

Capt. Unton Croke to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

BY the last post I acquainted your highnesse of the peace and quiett, that was in these parts, and what I had done in relation thereunto, by securing such gentlemen as (if any trouble should have arisen) might have beene instrumental in acting much mischeife; and I humbly desired you highnesse's commaunds, whether I shall continue their restraynt, or enlarge them. I alsoe acquainted your highnesse, that I had not beene carelesse in making the most curious search after Sexby, having had parties out after him both in Devonshire and Dorsetshire. Some of them are not yet returned, which makes mee hope they have tract him, and that by the next your highnesse may receive a further account from

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiii.
p. 203.

(may it please your highnesse)

Exon, Feb. 21, 1654.

your most humble and obedient servant,

UNTON CROKE.

Capt. Geo. Bishop to secretary Thurloe.

MR. SECRETARY,

I Received yours, and had the last post given you a farther intimation of Massey and the other person I mentioned, but the scouts employed to look after them were not returned till this evening. This is certayne, that about a fortnight since Massey came to one Thomas Dimmock's house, an inn-keeper of Henton 6 miles from this place, and sitting downe amongst some company ther drinking, hee asked what newes; wher Waller was, and wher Massey was. The inn-keeper being formerly under his command, and one Edward Lockston, a butcher of the same place, whispering with each other, knew that it was Massey himselfe, hee haveing lately shaved his beard. Sayd the inn-keeper therupon, you are the man, your name is Massey. Hee endeavoured to put it off; but paying the reckoning called for a chamber, and then sent for Lockston, and confessed himself to bee the man, and told him, he had been privately 10 dayes in Bristol, and had heard great matters of treason urged against him, but to London hee was bound, to answer all, haveing, as hee said, the lord protector's letter; only hee would goe by the way of Gloucester to see some friends first; and desired him to convey him in the way thither, which hee did. This Lockston himselfe gave account of to an honest man, from whence I received it. For the other, the barber that trim'd him, is still of opinion, that it is the duke of York: his man being somewhat in drink sayd, that his master had left his mother in France, and did little think wher hee was now; which when his master had heard, hee should say, he called for the meate, being but halfe ready, and a reckoning, and departed. Since that wee have intelligence of two places wher hee hath been.

Vol. xxiii.
p. 213.

Wee have every day confirmations of what wee signified concerning the designe here to bee executed. This day 24 new musquets and 10 pikes were informed to bee in one house on the bridge, the cheife place whence the late tumults and insurrections in the citty have arisen, which the man of the house being examined, hath confest. Wee hear of some persons of quallity, that the last night made a remove out of the suburbs of this citty. Certaynly very many of quallity were here, waiteing for the execution of the designe; and I am assured, that had the designe took, tuesday night last the rising had been here, for besides what I have already intimated to you, and might further add now, but cannot, because the post is departing, those 400 horse (wherof many were officers of the King's) came in that night upon pretence of the buriall of the Lady Newton (whose son is a notorious cavileer) and just as they came by the castle gate, a reake of hay in the graft was set on fire, which made such a smother, that the gate of the castle could not bee seen. Yesterday major Boteler with his owne and captain Robinson's troop marcht into this towne, and some other men have visited him, and alsoe discoursed. I shewed him your letter, and brought the man to him about Massey. I intend to waite upon him to Henton's to examine the busines further. Wee shall be as vigilant as wee can, and you'll find it reasonable to put this place in a condition of security. As any thing occurs, that is fit for your notice, you shall have an account. Major Boteler desir'd me to present his service to you. I must needs desire your excuse for this in much hast, from, sir,

Bristol, Feb. 21,
1654.

Your assured friend and servant,

GEO. BISHOP.

VOL. III.

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The

Middl. *The information of Nathaniel Bostock soldier, in captain Nicholas Cordy's company, under the command of colonel John Barkstead lieutenant of the Tower, taken upon oath before the said colonel, February 22, 1654.*

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiii.
p. 215.

THIS informant saith, that after the mounting of the guards this day, William Foster, one of their fellow soldiers, brought to this informant one John Hilton, and told the informant, that the said Hilton desired to speak with him; to whom this informant came, and the said Hilton desired to know when he came out of Ireland. This informant told him about two weeks past: and farther asked, if this informant knew Tredagh or Drogheda. This informant told him he did. Then the said John Hilton desired to drink with this informant; and this informant saith he went with him; and being in discourse (their drink not being brought presently) he asked this informant, why they would live in such slavery; and desired that this informant would go to some other place to be more readily attended. And accordingly this informant saith they removed to another place, where being in discourse together, the said John Hilton again required of this informant, why they would live in so much slavery; and asked, if it were not better for them to go to sea, and afterwards spoke of major general Overton prisoner in the Tower; and asked if he might not speak with him alone: and further saith not.

NATHANIEL BOSTOCK.

John Taylor soldier in the same company, being at that time in the company of the said Nathaniel Bostock and John Hilton, upon his oath testifieth the same,

JOHN TAYLOR.

Middl. *The information of William Foster soldier in captain Nicholas Cordy's company, under the command of colonel Barkstead lieutenant of the Tower, taken upon oath before the said colonel, February 22, 1654.*

THIS informant saith, that this day one John Hilton came and enquired for one William Foster; and this informant went unto him, and he with the said John Hilton being drinking together, he desired of this informant to know, if he might speak with major general Overton, now prisoner in the Tower; or that he might come to his window for that purpose, and where his lodging was. But this informant told him, he could not speak with the said major general Overton without the lieutenant of the Tower's order; and thereupon entering into farther discourse, the said John Hilton told this informant, he could give entertainment to 40 men at least aboard a ship, if they required it. And this informant desired to know of the said John Hilton the captain of the ship, whereto he answered, after he had spoke with the said captain, he would give this informant farther answer. Whereupon this informant apprehended him, and farther saith not.

The mark of
William **W F** Foster.

The examination of Edward Williams, of Convey, in the county of Caernarvon, yeoman, taken before me the justice of the peace, subscribed the 23 day of Feb. in the year of our Lord 1654. being apprehended for suspicion of high treason.

Vol. xxiii.
p. 219.

THE said Edward Williams being examined and demanded, whether or no any one desired him to raise arms against his highness the lord protector and the present government, his answer was, that to his remembrance none had desired him; and being farther demanded, whether he had confessed he had been so desired by any, made answer, that he had not to his remembrance.

WILL. STODART.

ED. WILLIAMS.

The examination of John Evans, of Tremorva, in the said county of Caernarvon, taken before me the said justice of the peace, subscribed the said 23d day of Feb. in the said year of our Lord 1654, against the said Edward Williams, for and on his highness's behalf.

THE said examine being demanded upon his oath, what he had to say or prove against the said Edward Williams, on his said highness's behalf, deposeth, that one mr. Thomas Davies, of Tremorva, in the said county of Caernarvon, gent. had related unto

unto this examine, that the said Edward Williams had asked the said Thomas Davies, A. D. 1654. whether he would be at the cavalier party; and that if he would, he should be well mounted. And this examine farther saith, that the said Thomas Davies told this examine, that he conceived, that one mr. Nicholas Bayley, of Corfwen, in the said county of Caernarvon, had procured the said Edward Williams to speak to him the said Thomas Davies, as concerning the said business. And this examine farther saith, that being in discourse with one Evan ap Jeffery, of the comott of Iffaph, in the said county of Caernarvon, he the said Evan told the said examine, that he heard that William Williams, Edmund Williams, Richard ap Williams Davids, and one of William ap Hugh ap Owen's sons, and one of Griffith ap William Davied's sons, and John ap Richard, concerned to be one; all being of the comott of St. Iffaph aforesaid, within the said county of Caernarvon, had promised to be, and to take arms under the said Nicholas Bayley, upon one hour's warning by him given them. And this examine farther saith, that the said Evan Jeffery farther told him the said examine, that the said Nicholas Bayley had twice desired a servant of that Williams of Flanvagan, in the said county of Caernarvon, esq; that he would bear arms under him the said Nicholas Bayley.

WILL. STODART.

JOHN EVANS.

The examination of Thomas Davies, of Caerhime, in the county of Caernarvon aforesaid, gent. taken before me the said justice of the peace, subscribed the said 23d day of Feb. in the said year of our Lord 1654, against the said Edward Williams, for and on his said highness's behalf.

THIS examine upon his oath saith, that he meeting with the said Edward Williams at Conwey accidentally in December last, and being a while there together, this examine being bound homewards from Conwey aforesaid, the said Edward Williams brought the examine a mile or thereabouts on the way, having a fowling piece on his back, who demanded of this examine, whether he would take arms on the cavaliers side; he should be welcome, and have an officer's place. Of whom this examine demanded, who had imployed him to speak to this examine of such a business; and he the said Edward Williams answered this examine, that if he would engage therein, he would tell him; otherwise not. To whom this examine made answer, that he was a lame man; and if he were otherwise, that he would not be for such an imployment. And this examine farther saith, that hearing of the apprehension of the said Nicholas Bayley, he told the former examine, John Evans, that he conceived the said Edward Williams had been imployed by the said Nicholas Bayley, to procure this examine and others for the said service.

WILL. STODART.

THOMAS DAVIES.

This is the copy of the said original taken by

WILL. STODART.

The examination of Anne Parry.

ANNE Parry, of Rosemary Lane in mr. Clarke's rents in Whitechapel, saith, that in Vol. xxiii. or about the month of August 1654, there came an agent from Rome to London, p. 223. whose name is — Darcy, an Irishman, and brought over with him a bull, pardons, and indulgencies, with other relicks, some whereof his mother shewed me at the Spanish house; whereupon I demanded, from whence they came. Her answer was, that her son brought them over from Rome, who had been there 16 years, and was then come over the pope's agent; but being doubtful of being suspected, I said no more to her at that time, but enquired of one of the priests at the Spanish house, where this mr. Darcy lay: he told me his lodging was at a barber's house at Temple Bar, where I desired of him, that a friend of mine might have a pardon. He told me, that those with . . . were gone, but there were two who went with him to Rome, and came back into France. They went to the Scotch king for commissions, and had, as he affirmed, more pardons; some whereof were his, and some their own. He told me, that he expected their landing every day, and at their coming I should have what pardons I pleased. I farther desired of him, where my friend should enquire for him. His answer was, that he would come with me, when I pleased, to her; so for want of assistance was constrained to let the matter rest till this time, that I had a fitter opportunity to declare the same; whereof there is but one witness, but I can have more, if occasion serve. The other two men are come out of France, and are

A. D. 1654. are now in Lincolnshire at fir John Thimbleby's, one being fir John's brother, and the other his son, and mr. Darcy there with them.

I know the contents of what is
here written to be true,

The mark **A P** of ANN PARRY.

MARGARET **M** ROBINSON
her mark.

Both these persons subscribed this as of their own knowledge, being ready to be deposed thereof in the presence of

JO. WOGAN. JEFFREY CORBETT. JA. HASLAM.

Feb. 23. 1654.

Mr. Chanut, the French ambassador in Holland, to Mr. Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Hague, March 5, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxv.
P. 241.

THE letter, which you have been pleased to write to me of the 6th of the last month, doth cast me far from the shore, when I thought to have been landed in the harbour. Good God! what patience you must have? I cannot conceive what all those quarrels and far fetcht novelties do signify, being nothing essential to your treaty. I cannot believe that the protector will make so slight of us, and that he will scorn the amity of the king of France; so I do not despair of your negotiation. I give you many thanks for the communication of your news. I do not wonder, that there is a great noise at London of a general insurrection, since it is much spoken of here; yet most wise men do not believe the design will succeed. It is certain, that the king of Scots is gone from Cologne, and that he has already landed in England. There are several places where they report him to be landed; but as for my own part, I do not believe any thing; and if I might be permitted to say any thing of those affairs concerning him, I do presume to say, that he is ill advised, if he be gone; one of the reasons, which might make me to judge, that the Spaniard have much confidence in the assistance, which they expect from the lord protector is, that they do not go about here to prepare for the next campaign. They never took less thought and care about it. Now it is not credible, that they would not give a better order about it, if they were not assured of some remarkable assistance from other parts; yet this reasoning is not altogether convincing, for they may have so much want of money, that they cannot make any greater preparations; and if the lord protector doth assist them, it is very probable he will sell them assistance so dear, that it were better for them to demand peace of France.

The king of Sweden is fallen dangerously ill 20 miles from Stockholm. The physicians do fear the success of the disease. In these parts is done no manner of thing, neither good nor evil. Eight days hence the assembly of Holland is to meet, and then we shall have here the lord Beverning, who is still taken up with his amours at Amsterdam. I do assure you, my lord, I do wish him good success, and that I do speak of him as the good testimonies, which you have given me of him, do oblige me.

Thomas Kynaston to the protector.

Vol. xxiii.
P. 253.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

SINCE the receipt of the right honourable the lord Lambert his letters by the last post, desiring my double diligence in securing of the garrison here committed to my charge; ensigne Spencer, formerly ensigne to coll. Carter, and now postmaster of this towne, by the discoursing with a neighbouring inhabitant, discovered something relating to the lifting of some men designed for the putting of the bloody plott against the present government (now under examination) in execution; which discoverie, that it might more regularly be proceeded in, mr. William Stodart, a justice of the peace of this county, and neare adjacent to this place, was desired to take the depositions and examinations of such persons as were therein concerned. The examinations and depositions already taken by the said mr. Stodart are here inclosed sent to your highness; and those that shall be taken hereafter shall by God's help (with as much care and diligence as can be imagined) follow. Edward Williams, one of the persons examined, is by mr. Stodart's mittimus sent prisoner to the common Goal of the county, as conceived guilty of high treason. The other two have entred into recognizance of 500 l. a peece for their appearance, when they shall be

be thereupon required. Mr. Bayley, the man mentioned in the examination, is returned home amongst his neighbours, though he had soe far engaged in this inhumane action; but upon what account soe soone cleered is best knowne to your highnes. I beleave tyme will make a further discoverie of more persons hereabouts engaged in this plott, which soe soone as brought to light, shall be forthwith transmitted unto your highnes, from

A. D. 1654.

Conway Castle,
Feb. 24, 1654.

Your highnes's most faithfull humble servant and fouldier,

THOMAS KYNASTON.

Mr. James Powell to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Humbly crave your pardon, in offeringe you this trouble, presumeinge on your ingenuitie V. x. p. 237. and that litle acquaintance I have with you. And what I shall here transcribe, is only to give you a prospecte of the condition and temper of Bristoll, specially at this tyme it lyeth under so many accusations touchinge a malignant plot, together with many tumults, broyles, and abuses offered to godly people, through the privitie or negligence of the magistrates, with other misdemeanours, &c. which hath justly caused his highnes to sende downe to see, whether it be accordinge to the cry thereof, which this citty takes as a speciall favour from him, as also for sendinge soe worthy a gentleman, soe sounde in his principles to religion, and of singular integritie and impartialitie, by whome the truth of all may be made knowne.

Truly sir, I doe not delight in ever scribblinge, as alsoe knowing my distance, but in a modest way to informe you of the state of thinges, beinge grieved to see what divisions are amongst us, and alsoe to thinke how ever and anon his highnes and the councell are awakened with untrue suggestions from discontented spirits to provoke them to reflect with a jealous eye upon this place.

I shall premise this to your honour, that the people here are of the same nature and complexion with the other parts of the nation, where are good and bad; and such as are under all formes of religion.

As for magistrates, I say, for them, as for a greate many more in Englande, it weair happe, if all places had such, and soe qualified as the scriptures require; but we must waite for the greate day of Jezreell to see that and other thinges reformed. However this is reall truth, that all good people under any forme of religion whatsoever (quakers excepted) have as much freedome and quiet without disturbance in this place, as in any place in England besides. And as to the magistrates, they are soe carefull in the government of the place, that wee live in as much quiet, good order, and civillitie, as any other people, and are generally in as much conformitie to the lawes and ordinances, as any cittie or corporation whatever, and have as little publique distempers amongst us.

As touchinge any plott from the old malignant principle, or fermentinge any ugly humour tendinge to the publique mischefe by any persons in this place, though I cannot be sure of men's hartes, yet I am confident by all observations, that there is as litle proclivitie in the malignants of this place to any new broyles as in any place of the nation; neither can I discerne any symtome or indication of any plottinge or designe. For the truth is, our malignants, and newters, and all sorts are now soe settled againe in their trade since the act of *Oblivion*, and by reason of peace and quiet the cittie increaseth in trade, that soe they may get money (which is most soveraigne to them) and be in quiet, they will be far from any new plots.

And truly, sir, his highnes may be confident, here are many godly people, that doe soe love, honour, and pray for him, together with many well-affected people (though not listed amongst the quakers profelites) who are soe radicated in the good old principle against malignants, and doe soe minde the peace of the nation, and their own securitie, as to life and estate, whose eyes and ears are soe intent upon the evill people, that if they saw the least tendencie by words, gesture, or actions towards any villanie, his highnes should quickly heare of us.

And whereas it was informed, the plot was such, as the garrison-officer durst not enter upon the discovery of it without more strength, I must needs avouch this for truth, if he had acquainted either the magistrates or any honest man of it, he might have had 4 or 500 men quickly to assist him.

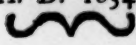
The cittie hath been very quiet a greate while, and that busines at Worcester made a good experiment of the temper of our malignants, who weare soe far from plottinge, that they shewed a good forwardnes to opose the enemys; and though I had litle cause, as any heere, to speake favourably of malignants, yet for truth's sake I say what I doe.

I shall acquaint your honour of two causes of our distempers, and howe they began. Upon the late ellection of Burgeses here, there weare two persons whome you know

VOL. III.

X x

that

A. D. 1654.  that stood for it; but having received a canvas, and disapoynted at Whitehall alsoe, it bred an extreame feud betwixt them and the magistrates themselves; which coare remayninge in their hartes, they waite occasions to blast the cittie by all possible meanes.

The other cause is the comeinge of the quakers, who with their franticke doctrines have made such an impression on the mindes of people of this cittie and places adjacent, that it is wonderfull to imagin, and hath alsoe made such a rent in all societies and relations, which, with the publique afront offered to ministers and magistrates, hath caused such a devision, I may say a mere antipathy amongst the people, and consequently many broyles and affronts; these quakers being countenanced by the officers of the garrisons and some other discontented persons, who are latelie led aside by these lunaticke doctrines, have taken the advantage to represent all these thinges and plotts, and the ill government of the magistrates, which is untrue.

These premises have beene travised by the honest major, who is I beleeeve sensible of our condition. I humbly pray your excuse for this prolixitie.

I saw your letter to friends here, which encouraged me to trouble you with these. I shall be spareinge hereafter; only if I know any thing of publique prejudice, shal be bould to give you notice, if I may not be accompted buffy. Sir, this is only to your owne breast, with many thanks for furtheringe my warrants. I remayne

Bristol, Feb. 24, 1654.

your honour's most humble servant,

JAMES POWELL.

Mr. Rob. Aldworth to secretary Thurloe.

HONORED SIR,

Vol. xxiii.
p. 261.

SINCE my coming home, as well by my owne observation as by the relation of many others, I have fully satisfied mysele, that major Butler hath most impartially proceeded here in the examination of what his highness referred to him. Indeed his deportment in the management of this busines hath been every way suitable to the carester, that both yourselfe and others gave of him, and much to the honour of his highness. I shall not trouble your honour with the relation of the transactions since the forces came hither, but leave the narrative thereof to be made by the major himselfe, which doe presume will be by this post; only shall in generall thus much humbly acquaynt your honour, that wee hope the major is so fully informed upon his strict inquiry of the peceablenes and conformity of the citty under his highnes government, of the protection and encouragment of godly and sober Christians of all formes and judgments, of the falsity and frivolousnes of the informations and compleyntes both against magistrates and people of this place (not any one of them being proved) that the representation, which shal be made by him, may (by God's providence) prove a mercy to this citty, be a cleere vindication of the innocency and faithfulness of the magistrates and inhabitants, and in due time may render us a people to be more intrusted by his highness, and to be better capable for receiving some further markes of his favor in reference to the restoration of our lands in the castle and other rights of the citty. Truly, sir, I looke on it as somewhat providentiall to mysele, that what I have often asserted on the behalfe of this place, doth on due examination appeare to be altogether true. If his highness shal be pleased to settle the militia here, such persons may be intrusted as will be most faythfull; or if to continue the Wyall fort, yet shall humbly offer for the publick interest, that the government and chardge thereof be in future committed to the care of such person or persons, which may hold a better correspondency with the magistrates, and not be a matter of such divisions amongst us here, or should by their actions alienat affection from present power or countenancers of them. This with my humble thanks for all favours, I take leave, and subscribe

Bristoll, saturday,
Feb. 24, 1654

Your honour's very much oblidge

and faythfull servant,

RO. ALDWORTH.

Major Wm. Boteler to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

Vol. xxiii.
p. 257.

I Shall now present your highness with a faithfull narrative of the distempers of this place, having very fully informed mysele both of the cause and continuance of them from the best hands that may be. As soone as I came in hither on tuesday last, I was presently visited by

A. D. 1654.

by the deputies of the castle and fort, with mr. Hollister and captaine Bishopp, who presently began to declare their sad greivances, and many other godly and well-affected people, who had (they said) suffered much from the magistrates and many other disaffected people of this place; they were pleased to spend 2 houres time at least, heaping one complaint upon another against them. The next morning they were with me againe, going over and over the same things. I would onely give them a patient hearing, which indeed they had; and mr. mayor and his brethren being desired to speake with me, I went to them; from whome I received a profession of their innocency as to all that had beene complained of against them, as also multiplied complaints against the first complainers. And by this tyme I perceived how impossible it would be for me to give your highness an impartiall account of matters betwixt them, unless I could get both parties together, which I did endeavour and effect betweene the magistrates of their towne, captain Watson and captain Beale; (but mr. Hollister and C. Bishopp I founde indisposed to the motion, who told me, they sent not to your highness about the execution of these matters; but that you would be pleased to send some strength hither to secure the interest of the commonwealth, and thought it not expedient to go with the two captains) who when they came together, began to object many things against one another. After a while, to prevent confusion, I entreated the captains to begin againe, and enumerate their greivances one by one; and desired the other party to answer them in like manner, which was consented to; and so I obtayned a distinct hearing of every particuler; and truly, my lord, I must say, that of those many things, which were alleadged against the mayor and aldermen (which I beleive were more then had been complained of to your highness) not one of them could be proved against or fastened upon them, but they did evidently acquitt themselves of the whole. It would be absurdly tedious for me to particulerize things to your highness; nor could this paper conteyne them; but captaine Robinson will ere long be in London, who (with some other officers) was present at all the debates, and can, if your highness command it, give you a particular and exact account of all. In the meane tyme I may assure your highness, that with some greife and shame on the behalfe of my fellow officers especially, I am forced to let you know, they have carryed things very imprudently, and to the dishonour of religion, your highness, and army; and I must needs say, that it hath beene onely the goodness of God, that such carriages have not begotten more then animosities from this people. As for C. Bishopp, I should think your highness knowes him well enough without any character of myne; though thus much I could have informed concerning him, before I came hither, that whatever he may complaine of as to other men's disaffections, as to the present government, there's no man hath exprest more against it then himselfe (as in other places) so especially not long since at Marlburgh in mr. Hughs his house, where his lavishe tongue was by an honest inhabitant of the same towne well reprov'd. And truly, my lord, I did in my chamber here tell him pretty roundly of it, and the continuall flutters and stirrs he makes up and downe, now he is turned halfe a quaker, onely to have a party to make a litle opposition with to the towne. Poore mr. Hollister I think is utterly carryed away with them, and so are many others, among which some honest people. But your highness would wonder, if you did but perfectly know their carriages heere, that any sober Christian should be befooled with them, most of them being filled with rage and rayling against all dissenters good or badd. It is most certaine, the disturbances they have made in the publique places here have caused severall woomen to miscarry, and brought other inconveniencies upon others. And they cease not to affront the magistrates and ministers both, calling them names not to be named in the open streets sometymes, rayling against them in their teachings, (which indeed are scarce any thing els) and by letters; and one of the ministers here was not onely much mis-called, but pulled and pinched by one of them as he went up and downe the streets. And how greatly must it needs reflect (more then upon themselves) that C. Watson and C. Beale (not to name the other two) should so much and so farr countenance and abett this sort of principle. I meane not (my lord) to protect them onely, for that the magistrates (be as badd as they will) did do, whilest they were peacible. It's no small greife to the people of God up and downe the nation, to see such lightness of spirit still here and there among us. One would thinke all the wynds of God's displeasure, that have beene rayfed against us one tyme after another, should have blowne away our chaffe ere now; but it is not so. But I should not forgett to add, to confirme your highness in the truth and impartiallity of the representation I have made to your highness both of persons and things beforementioned, that I have had to the same effect an account from the most sober men both of the towne and out of it, as mr. Knowles, mr. Evans, mr. Powell, mr. Blackwell, major Harper, mr. Bramley, and severall others; and by the testimony of these it doth appeare (and could not be denyed by capt. W. C. B. &c.) that till the quakers made such publique disturbances, here hath beene all liberty and protection given to men's exercising privately and publicly under whatever formes, and will be still, and as great testimony hath been given of the submission and obedience of this citty to the present government, though it may

A. D. 1654. may be, 'twill be said self-love is the ground of it. But graunte it be so, yet obedience is not to be rejected or discouraged; and if the principle of every man's obedience were knowne, 'twould take of from the splendor of many a man's. Thus, my lord, I have troubled your highness both with a breife and tedious relation of what hath beene 4 or 5 dayes labour to me, and is like to be many dayes sensure. But I have putt on this peice of armour against it, that I have written the very truth. It may be your highness will expect I should say something concerninge the castle and fort. Truly the first thing that I shall say is, it is matter of wonder to me, to see how both of them and all that are in them have beene exposed to most apparent hazard through the paucity of souldiers to defend them. Any of them in such a juncture as this hath beene would have required more then the number that both had. Now, my lord, as touching the settling a garrison here for the future, I finde my poore reason very inclinable to it, the place being in (many respects) the most considerable of any I know as to advantage or disadvantage. The castle is exceeding ruinous, and in my judgment (if it were worth any thing) not so fitt to be kept as the fort; and truly to keepe and repaire both would be very chargeable. But I am thinking againe, that perhaps a regiment of foote to be quartered here may be as much to the purpose, and lesse to your expence; but indeed, my lord, I know my selfe unworthy to advise in this perticuler more then that whiles you do keepe the castle and fort, it's necessary they should be reinforced. And by this tyme I thinke you will scarce have patience to reade that I am,

Bristoll, Feb. 24, 1654.

Your highness in all duty and service,

W. BOTELER.

MY LORD,

I have examined C. Bishopp's intelligences concerning Massey his being lately in these parts; but they can make out no probability of that report.

I must likewise acquaint your highness, that the party I sent to Chepstowe castle, are returned without John Wyldman's servant, having escaped thence the very next morninge after he came in. Capt. Nicholas his deputy would seeme to excuse the matter, by alledging, that he was not named prisoner in the letter my lord writt to him; the reason whereof was, because he (citing your highness order) would onely mention John Wyldman, as it did. But, my lord, there is a sufficient prooffe, that the corporall, as he was bid, told the deputy of the castle, that he was equally guilty with his master; and that he was to secure him, and keep him from any speech with his master; and the officer I now sent for him saies, the ensigne did acknowledge as much to him. I sent away a party with the same officer that apprehended him before, to see if he might light on him at the same place againe; but least he miss, if your highness send to his father's house, an apothecary, livinge next doore to the King's Head in Black-Fryers, he may be had there very probably.

Major William Boteler to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

Vol. xxiii.
p. 267.

I HAVE given his highness so tedious an account of such things he commanded me here, that I had not roome nor confidence to say more to him at this tyme. But I would humbly begg the favour of you to know and signify his pleasure concerning the recruiting our troopes to an hundred; that if he continue of that mynde, we may be endeavouring something in it. I confesse I have done nothing yet, for that I was a stranger in these parts, and could not get such men as I might elsewhere; and yet I would be loath to call any poore men from their callings and families, unless there were most absolute necessity, and I might assure them pay. And rather then fill up our troopes with such as we know not to be honest confiding men, some of us had rather adventure our lives with those we have already. I shall be at Marlborough thursday night with these two troopes againe. You may please to direct your commands thither. I hope I shall leave this towne in a peacible state. Indeed, sir, let them be as badd as some would make them, yet sure I am, they have had farr most cause to complayne; and I thinke it very equall his highness should let them know he beleives not of them as they have beene represented. I beseech you, sir, present my humble service to sir G. Pickering. I would have done it by letter, but have made the post stay too long. I am,

Bristoll, Feb. 24, 1654.

Sir, your very faithfull servant,

W. BOTELER.

Mr.

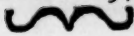
Mr. W. Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Herewith is a duplicate of my last to your honour, written from Vologda, which was sent from hence to Riga about six weeks past, and went under cover to the Russia company. A. D. 1654.
V. xxiv. p. 51.

These will give your honour advertisement, that from the seventh of November, that I came to Vologda, unto the sixth of January the vavode of that city had not the least notice of the safe delivery of any of the several letters he had signified me to have sent the emperor, by expresse and other conveyances, in them giving his majesty to understand the tyme of my arrival to that citye. Nor was I certaine, when I should have his order to come forward. I therefore resolved to send a gentleman expressly to his majesty with my letter; but the governor of Vologda would not condescend thereunto, nor lett me have poste for him. Soe being putt from that my intention, I sent an expresse to an English merchant, John Hebden, that dwells in this city's new suburbs (the place where all strangers live) with my letter to him, as also myne for the emperor, to be delivered to the high chancellor of the possesco office (the place where ambassadors, foreign ministers and strangers make their addresses;) but Hebden being so much engaged in his majestie's service, durst not doe it for jealousie these ministers might have of him of intelligence with me; so returned me my letter by my expresse. Upon his retorne to Vologda, I sent a gentleman from the prestave (the man that had me in conduction from Archangell to that governor) to tell him, that I thought much of my longe staye there, and to desire him to take it into consideration; whereupon he sent for the chancellor of that imperial office, and taking counsell of him resolved to lett my prestave follow the order he had from the governor of Archangell, which was to bringe me to the village Mutishia, fiveteen verze from hence; and then came to the possesco office, there to deliver his letter to the high chancellor, and to receive his orders how further to proceed with me; so that saturday 6th of January I departed Vologda, and arrived at Mutishia mundaye morning 5th courrant: from whence my prestave came hether, and returned back the morning following, with order from the chancellor to bring me heather, that an house should be provided for me, but desired to be excused, that I could not be received in the same manner as ministers of kings and great princes, in the quality I ame sent from his highnesse, lord protector, to the emperor (the custome is to be received about a myle out of the city) who was expected there that daye (which was true) and that all officers and people of the city were ordered to goe forth of it for his majestie's reception; but by reason of several stations that he made at places of devotion, he came not into the city till the 10th. The emperor, the young prince, daughters, and the emperor's sister, came in the day before. His majestie's entry was noe great matter for pompe. There went forth to this incounter about 8000 citizens, (there is yet a very small number of people of that great multitude there was before the contagion) some 500 strangers, officers, and others of the army. The Hollanders and Hambourgers merchants went alsoe forth in this incounter, and presented his majestie with a silver gilt cupp, with 500 dockats in it; and they all kissed his hand at the entry of the gate, where the emperor came in. There mett him the Patriarch and all the clergy; from whence his majesty came bare-headed, and all the clergy, except the patriarch (who wore his crowne or miter) untill they came to their chief church (having made some little stay at several places of devotion by the waye) and from thence was conducted to his pallace.

From the 6th currant, that I arrived here, I stayed till the 15th, untill I was sent for by the emperor; and then was to go to his majesty in all hast, not having given me an hower's warning, to make me ready; but then came a contradiction and order to stay till the next morning. The said 15th in the afternoone, the above-named Hebden came to me, and told me, that he was appointed by the emperor to be interpreter betwixt his majesty and me. Whereupon I communicated to him the speech I intended to make to the emperor, that Hebden might be the readier to interpret it, who then departed from me, went and certified what he had seene to the chancellor, who that evening sent Hebden to me with a long list of titles the emperor hath assumed to himselfe; and to desire me, that I would give them to his majestie in my speech, to which I answered, that the tyme was soe short before my audience, that it was impossible for me to retayne them in my memory. Moreover that I could not alter those, that were on his highnesse's letter to his majestie; but when his highnesse should be informed of them, without all question, when another occasion should present to write to his majesty, they would be given him; and on these termes we remayned till the next morning, when the gentleman of the emperor's horse, that waits on me (who in this office is called a prestave) came with an high sledd of the emperor's for my selfe, and two of his horses for two of my gentlemen to ryde on, other two stood in the fore parte of my sled, (he that stood on

A. D. 1654.  the right hand carried his highnesse lord protector's letter aloft open, holding it in a peice of crimson taffata) myself and the prestave (he on my right hand) in the body of the sled, and two of my servants in livery behind. Before I departed the house where I am lodged, the prestave told me, he had order from the chancellor to tell me, that it was not the custome for ambassadors or other publique ministers of foreign princes to go to his majesty with swords; that I should leave it; but that I might weare my belt; but rather than goe with my belt alone, I thought best to leave it with my sword. My gentleman and servants wore theirs untill we came to the possesco office, where they left them, until we returned from the emperor.

In my going to the emperor, there went first two of his majestie's soldiers a horsebacke, then my two gentlemen in like manner; and then our sled. When we came to the gate of the castle (which is about a mile in circuit) there stood from thence to the palace-gate, on both sydes, 36 companys of musqueteers with their collours, some of them in red, others in green, blew, and white coates. When we came to the possesco office, we quitted our sled and horses (the office is some 40 paces short of the pallace gate) and went in there; and whilst I was there, Hebden came to me from the chancellor, and told me, that his majesty was contented I should omitt the giving of all his titles, and only say, as presently shall follow; desiring that brevity of speech, because that his majesty was to give audience to the Swedes commissary (soe he tearmed that minister that crowne hath here;) and having stayed in that office above haulf an hower came in order to goe to the emperor. We departed from thence afoote, and being brought by my prestave into the hall, where the emperor was, I tooke his highnesse's letter, that before one of my gentlemen carried before me. His majesty satt upon a throne made firme against the wall, in form of a niche, three steps elevated from the floore, and plac't more than haulf way off the middle of the roome from the doore. The throne is sayed to be of silver gilt with gold, handsomely wrought and adorned with pretious stones. His majesty was in a vest of cloth of gold with long hanging sleeves, and lyned with fables. His capp of purple velvet lyned with fables, and imbroidered with pearle; and in his left hand a staffe about a yard and half long, and a finger's bigness, besett with pretious stones; and on the topp of it a crosse. On his right hand stood his brother-in-law, Burris Juaneuich Mouroufene, and on the left Elia Danetowich his father-in-law, both of them bare headed, and in red vests. At the lower end of the room sat twelve or fourteen noblemen, counsellors of state, in vests of cloth of gold and capps of blacke foxes skins all alike. The chancellor on the right hand of the emperor went to and from his majesty to me, and some twenty or more gentlemen were behynd me with their capps on.

When I came just before the emperor, and had done my last reverence, I was bid by the chancelor and Hebden to speake, when I sayd the insuing words presilly: great monarch! His highnesse Oliver lord protector of the high and most potent commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the dominions therunto belonging hath sent hither by me William Prideaux his messenger to your imperial majesty, great lord, emperor, and great duke Alexsea Michaylowich of the greater and lesser Ruffia (soe he will have and not of all Ruffia) selfe-upholder, and of many other dominions lord and monarch, to whom his highnesse sendeth greeting. That being spoken in Ruffe by Hebden, I subjoynd, that I would not tediate his majesty with further discourse, but for what then I had else to say, I remitted it to his majesty in that paper (which was what was in the paper here inclosed) that being referred to the emperor I was bid deliver it to the chancellor, as I did. Then the emperor spoke to the chancellor, and he to me by Hebden, to deliver his highnesse's letter to his majesty, which I did into his owne hands, and he remitted it unto the chancellor. Having delivered the letter, I returned backe to the place, where I spoke. Then the emperor spoke to the chancellor, and he to me by Hebden, that for such matters as his highnesse's letter containys, and for such business as I have to treat of, his majesty would appoint commissioners to heare me, and to all make answer. Then the emperor ask'd (as I was told by Hebden) of the good health of the protector, using this word in Ruffe, howe is the good health of Oliver Utaditela (that is sole commander or sole director.) I having answered, that his highnesse was in perfect health at my departure from England, and had not heard to the contrary since, then the emperor by the chancellor asked of my good health; and having answered to that, his majesty spoke to him againe, and hee to Hebden, to tell me, that the emperor did grace me to kisse his hand; which when I had done, I returned to my station. He spoke again to the chancellor, and he to Hebden, that his majesty did also grace my fower gentlemen to kisse his hand; which when they had done, his majesty spoke agayne to the chancellor, and he to me by Hebden, that his majesty would grace me with his diner, with which I was dismissed, and returned to my lodging, as I went to the emperor.

Presently after I came from the emperor the Swed's commissary went to his audience, to deliver him letters he had from the king his master.

In the house where I am, that the emperor hath assigned me, and makes a handsome A. D. 1654.
 shew to the streete, and would with a little expence bee made commodious, there is not
 a locke to a door, nor stoole, nor forme to sitt on, nor any thinge more than the bare
 walls, but what I have bought and borrowed. The emperor's allowance of meat and
 drinke (wyne I have none, as formerly hath been the custome to give) that I have is suffi-
 cient for me and people. They are scarce in allowance of wood, which I supply my selfe
 what wants.

The emperor three days past went to a monastery 60 verze off, and 'tis sayd will returne
 heather this daye. 'Til his majesty come backe, or rather till towards the end of the next
 week, I shall not doe any thinge in affayres, by reason that this is a weeke of debauched-
 nesse, that all qualities and conditions of people will be drunke; and till haulf the next
 they will scarce come to their senses again, and then they will be all in fasting and praying.

There hath bine of late a faction betwixt the emperor's people and the Poles. These by
 night sett on a quarter of their enemys, and putting them in confusion, they took their
 own people for Russes, which caused much mortality amongst themselves. The day ap-
 pearing the Poles continued the fight, which lasted two days, and had the better of the
 Russes, taking from them some small peices of cannon, which they had, and killed about
 4000 of their men; of which two Scotch colonels, and other officers, strangers. 'Tis
 credibly beleived, the emperor will have a hard taske of it this yeare; for that we under-
 stand the king of Poland and Reginel will be very strong. It is thought that the Crim
 Tartar will assist the Pole with 60000 Tartars. His master intends to goe into the field
 very speedily. The cheefe officers strangers that are there, have orders to depart within
 ten dayes.

The Swead's commissarys hath not visited me, neither do I know whether he intends it.

This is what I have for the present to informe your honours of; so I humbly leave,
 and remayne, &c.

Moscow, February 24, 1654.

*The speech of Wm. Prideaux, esq; to the Czar of Russia, given in writing, Feb
 15, 1654.*

GREAT MONARCH,

FOR the many and grave abuses perpetrated in England in the last king's reign, without
 hope of redress, so that for remedy and prevention of farther damage for the publick
 weal, the great council of the land hath changed the government of state, elected and
 established the most excellent and most prudent prince, his highness Oliver as lord protector
 of the high and most potent commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the
 dominions thereunto belonging, who with intire affection sendeth greeting to your impe-
 rial majesty Alexsea Michaylowich, most high and right noble prince, by the mercy of
 God great lord and emperor, and great duke of all Russia, sole commander of Volodimer,
 Mosco, and Novogrod, emperor of Cazan, emperor of Astracan, and emperor of Siberia,
 lord of Volkly, great duke of Tuerky, Ughorsky, Perinsky, Vatsky, Bolgarsky, and
 others, also lord and great duke of Novogrod, in the lower countries of Rezansky, Polatsky,
 and Kestonetky, Peorostavsky, Beolesafsky, Udersky, Obdersky, Condinsky, and of all
 the northern principalities lord and commander, also lord of the countries of Caberdinsky,
 and of the dukedoms of Cherasky, Ighorsky, and of many other kingdoms, great lord and
 conqueror, whose perfect health his highness (at my departure from him) hoped I should
 find, at my arrival to your imperial person, auguring a long continuance thereof, with
 a happy and glorious reign, in prosperity, splendor, and completion of all greatness.

His said highness having established, in our commonwealth, a perfect and solid go-
 vernment, with tranquillity, to his own satisfaction, and to the unanimous content of
 all degrees and conditions of persons in it, composed those differences, that were betwixt
 it and the lords states general of the united provinces of the Netherlands, renewed alliance
 with the crown of Sweden, and the kings of France and Spain, with many other princes,
 potentates, and republicks of Christendom, that by their ambassadors, agents and ministers
 have sent to congratulate his highness for his assumption in his pre-eminent dignity to
 procure his amity and friendship, and some of them his protection, hath in the midst of
 those affairs been mindful of your imperial majesty, for the great good will born to
 your imperial person, and for the ancient good intelligence and correspondency past be-
 twixt your majesty's renowned predecessors, of famous memory, your imperial self, and
 our nation, inasmuch, that by virtue of theirs and your majesty's gracious privileges to a
 particular company of our merchants, a continued commerce hath been by them exercised
 in your imperial dominions, till of late years those privileges have been taken from
 them.

For

A. D. 1654.

For these causes and considerations his highness lord protector hath sent his letter expressly to your imperial majesty, by one William Prideaux his messenger, with order to deliver it into your royal hands, to whom I beseech be pleased to give a complete answer to each particular of its contents in that convenient time, as may well stand with your imperial majesty's affairs.

Bristol. *The information of Jasper Gill, of Bristol, merchant, given to major Boteler, on the behalf of the commonwealth, upon the 24th day of Feb. 1654.*

Vol. xxiii.
p. 265.

WHO saith, that he being in the company of John Stradling, of Chedsey in the county of Somerset, on tuesday last, at Bridgwater, and afterwards upon thursday, at an alehouse in the parish of Chedsey aforesaid; the said Stradling told him, that there had been very lately a plot on foot against the present government; that there should have been a general rising over England, Scotland, and Wales; and that the lord protector's person and the city of London should have been seized upon on tuesday last was sevennight, being the 13th of this instant February; and he and col. Slingsby, not long since prisoner in Exeter, Hugh Smith, of Long Ashton, esq; one col. Middleton, and some of the Thistlethwaits, and divers others, were, in order to the execution of the said plot, met together at Salisbury, upon monday the 12th instant. But a post came into Salisbury that afternoon, giving them notice, that the plot was discovered; and the word was given, every man shift for himself; whereupon they presently dispersed to their several houses, and he returned to col. Piggot's house, at Long Ashton aforesaid, near Bristol, where he was furnished with a good horse, as he went to Salisbury, and left his own; and at his return he left the borrowed horse there again, and kist the lady's hands (meaning mrs. Piggot) and took his own horse, and returned presently to his own house at Chedsey, whither he came about 2 or 3 a clock the next morning. And he farther said to the informant, that if things had gone well, Jack (meaning himself) had been a man, and his old spot or stain cast upon him by the cavalier party, for serving as lieutenant under general Blake, would have been wiped off. And farther the said Stradling said, that he had a letter, which he received in relation to the said design (which he pretended to his wife was from his mother in Wales, for him to go to her) but he was to burn it, as soon as he had read it; which he said he did, but would not discover any farther, being, as he said, bound to the contrary by an oath of secrecy. Attested by

JASPER GILL.

Major Boteler to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxiii.
p. 285.

WITHIN 2 howres after the writing of my last to your highnesse, one mr. Gyll a merchant in this towne coming from Bridgwater, immediately came to my lodgings, offering me this information, which I tooke from him, and he afterwards subscribed, and will be ready upon oath to make good, when he shall be thereunto required. The originall I have by me, and have presented your highness with a true copy. I have sent a party to apprehend Stradling, who will be brought to me to Marlborough, whether I am going to morrow. I sent to Long Ashton to have apprehended collonel Piggott and Hugh Smyth, his sonn-in-lawe. Piggott I have taken and comitted him to C. Watson's custody, where he will be safe till he shall be demanded by your highness's order. Smyth is in London, his lodging is at the signe of the Gunn in the Strand neere the Savoy. If you miss him there, col. Cooke can give information of him, he being suiter to a lady of his acquaintance. I hope collonel Slingsby is apprehended by this tyme also. But I heare even now he is gott up to London, which is and hath been the very nursery of such wilde creatures. The Thistlethwaytes I understand live in Wilts. I shall know where, when I come to Marlborough, and endeavour their apprehension speedily. I shall send Stradling up to Whitehall: he is a poore, but most desperate gentleman. Mr. Gyll the informant thinks for a small reward and promise of pardon he will make a notable discovery, (and certainly he can do it to purpose.) I am perswaded the Lord will bring more of theise youths to our knowledge. I shall not be wanting in any thing I may contribute towards it; nor I trust your highness will not be over pitifull towards such as shall bee proved guilty. I shall add nothing to the account I presented by the last post of the assayes of this place, nor diminish from it, it being what I shall owne and make evident. And though the load lyes most upon my brethren and fellow officers, yet I have not layde it upon

upon them without cause; nor so much in something as I might have done by farr; but I hope they are a litle ashamed of their unhandfome carriages. The mayor and aldermen have promised all tenderneſs towards good people under whatever forme, and (though they are moſt of them carnall themſelves) yet I beleive they have exerciſed that lenity towards all formes here, as I muſt profeſs to your highneſs, I thinke nere a citty nor corporation in England would have done the like. And truly, my lord, both in that regard, as alſo (if I be not altogether miſinformed) in reſpect of their readineſs to owne your government (as in many thinges hath been inſtanc't to me from moſt impartiall hands) they deſerve your highneſs encowragement, though it ſhould be, as is often alleadged, for their owne ſafetie, that they manifeſt this compliance. But I ſhould tell your highneſs, that I do obſerve here very great fewdes twixt the towne, C. Watſon, and C. Beale, and they have had too much rooting on both ſides. I wiſhe I had ſkill enough to pluck them up; but in truth I have not, nor noe man els. Mr. Holliſter and G. B. ſtaid at the ſame diſtance with the citty alſo; and how old their unkindneſſes be, I know not, but at the laſt election they received no ſmall confirmation, and ſtill more by their ſiding with this generation of giddie heades, which I wiſhed G. B. hath not done meerly to make a party againſt the citty; for I do not thinke he is much pleaſed with their notions. Two things (in caſe your highneſs reſolve to keepe a garriſon here) ſeeme very neceſſary; one that you reinforce your garriſon, the other that you give theſe captains ſome other ymployment, it being impoſſible to gett a good underſtanding 'twixt them and the towne. I am ſorry to ſpeake it, but you will finde it ſo.

I hope the next ymployment your highneſs putts me upon, will be a more thankfull one, then this is like to prove unto,

Briſtoll, Feb. 26,
1654.

My lord,
your highneſs's in all duty,
W. BOTELER.

Col. Wm. Boteler to ſecretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Have beene forced to trouble your highneſs with a long ſcribble againe, but I truſt in Vol. xxiii. order to the diſcovery of ſome more of the late plotters. I moſt humbly thanke you for P. 289. the intelligence you were pleaſed to hint to me by the poſt that came to day. The continuance of the cavaliers deſignes muſt needs continue my care and dilligence to diſcover, prevent, or breake them, in one of which at leaſt I truſt God will uſe me in theſe parts. I beleive you will receive ſome complaynts from G. B. and mr. Holliſter, as ſoone as they underſtand what representation I have made of the affayres here. 'Twere impoſſible I ſhould eſcape without ſenfures on one ſide, though my conſcience tells me, I deſerve them on neither. But I am reſolved to take no notice of them. I ſhall humbly begg two words in anſwer to my laſt about our recruiting or not, that all due care may be taken therein by, ſir,

Briſtol, Feb. 26,
1654.

Your very affectionate
and humble ſervant,
W. BOTELER.

I am marching towards Marlborough to morrow morninge, where I ſhall expect your next commands.

Capt. Geo. Biſhop to ſecretary Thurloe.

MR. SECRETARY,

ON fryday laſt I went with a party of horſe to Henton, wher haveing ſecured Ed- Vol. xxiii. ward Lockſton and John Dimmock the inn-keeper, the officer that commanded P. 293. the party and myſelfe examined them both. Lockſton confeſſed, that about 3 weekes ſince a ſtrainger came into the inn at evening, wher hee and others were ſitting by the fire; that when they would have riſen, hee would not permit them, but ſate and drank with them: that in diſcourſe hee aſked, wher was Waller, and what was become of Maſſey: that thereupon hee the ſaid Lockſton and John Dimmock whiſpered together, that hee was the man. Dimmocke ſayd he was too young. Lockſton replied, hee had been newly ſhaved; and ſayd to the ſtrainger openly, you are the man. That hee payd the reckoning, went upp into his chamber, ſent Dimmock to call Lockſton to him. Lockſton coming upp hee deſired him to convey

Vol. III.

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A. D. 1654. convey him towards Gloucester; and that hee and another did convey him the next morninge to Nimpsfield to one Pearce, an inn-keeper, whoe was sometime clerk to collonel Rayman, and ther left him, but denyed, that he owned himselfe to him to be Massey in the chamber, or that hee said hee heard treason was layd to his charge, or that haveing a letter from the lord protector hee would goe to London, which the honest man before major Boteler, myselfe, and half a dozen more related from his mouth; but confessed, that hee sayd hee had been 10 dayes in Bristoll, and came thither from Ireland. Dimmock sayd at first, hee would say nothing till hee came to Whitehall; but afterwards confest to us, that in the entry hee acknowledged himselfe to him, that his name was Massey. Hereupon wee brought them both to towne prysoners that night, and I desired the mayor, that the honest man, that had it from Lockston's mouth, as I wrote you in my last, might bee sent for, and they confronted; but what account they gave to the mayor on saturday, I leave to the mayor's owne relation; for I was not present; but what is sayd afore quartermaster Ashton that commanded the party and myselfe, are ready to justifie. What this may amount to, I know not; but this relation of Massey coming to us from honest and discreet persons doe positively, as I have formerly signified at the very time, that both by my lord Lambert's letter by his highnes's order the intimation of the designe was given to the garrison, and our other knowledge thereof, and observation of danger at the doore here, which we never had one more reall in our apprehensions, or greater, or that would have fallen upon us with greater fury, or to higher prejudice of the common safety, I could not but give you an account thereof impartially, as I found it; (and in such a juncture blame not your friendes, if they should at any time be over jealous out of tendernes to the commonwealth) and I went myselfe purposely to drive it as farr as I could; and you have the account. For the other I have not my returnes as yett, I am with you very sensible of the designs driven on still by the old enemy, of whom I have had formerly experience enough; and how they still rallyed more stronger and with more policy after some discovery and interruption, instead of being discouraged; and they every day by wicked experience learne the mistery of such tradeing, till the neck of all was broke, and the bottome turned upp. And you may still expect their restlesse endeavours against the peace of this poor countrey. I am much afflicted to hear, that any, whoe have much pretended to publicque principles, and have been sometimes serviceable against the common ennemy, should turne in now to them, or give them advantage. For my part, I expect destruction (as it hath hitherto proved to be the portion of that interest and all that joyne to it) as cursed of the Lord, and as I have been, soe I trust the Lord, whoe in mercy hath held mee by the hand all my dayes, and kept me faithfull whatever hath been my discouragements and temptations, which have not been a few or triviall, will (I am assured thereof) preserve mee to the end; and the encrease of a good conscience is noe small rejoyceing to me in the houre of my retirement, which till now, since the warrs began, I never obtained. I am looking after a kingdom, that cannot bee shaken, and studying peace with trueth. You intimate some feares of distractions in this cittie. I feare they are encreased since these troopes came hither; and that the breach is wider rather then less: but I have troubled you too farr already, knowing your employments at this tyme; by which I have found myselfe in the like formerly to bee exceeding pressing. Therefore I shall add noe further, but that I am ready to appeare, sir,

Bristoll, Feb. 26,
1654.

Yours readily to serve you,
GEO. BISHOPPE.

I very kindly received yours this day, and doe
render you my thankfulness.

Mr. Jonas Cudworth to col. Charles Worfeley.

SIR,

Vol. xxiii.
p. 297.

NOTT omittinge my due respects to your selfe and bedfellow, haveinge heard some reports concerninge the late plott, I thought it my duety to give notice to your honour the rumour is amongst both the cavalier and catholick party, that a right course is not taken for prevention, there being many employed for the secureinge of others, whoe are themselves envolved in the designe, whoe itick not to say, within twenty dayes, notwithstandinge what is yet done, the worke goes on, and 20000 horse are listed, and in readinesse in Yeorkshire, Lancashire, and North. and Bishoprick, and that a person of honour in Yeorkshire is impowered by Charles Stewart, to give commissions to whome he thinkes fitt, as allsoe some perticuler officers have received from London 50 l. a peece. I should bee sorry to breede any jelousies without cause, but divers catholicks have towlde me, they were invited to rise, whoe refused, and say col. Howard hath a good opinion

opinion of some in Northumberland, whose are engaged in the business. I should be glad to have a line from you. I have heard nothing from the sherrife, nor mr. Witte as yet : I have noe more at present, but to subscribe my selfe

From Stella near Newe,
Feb. 26, 1654.

Your's to serve you,
JONAS CUDWORTH.

General Monck to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Received yours of the 20th instant, and thanke you for your large narrative concerning major generall Harrison and the rest, which gave a great deale of satisfaction to many officers heere. I am sorry, those gentlemen should be so strangely dissatisfied with the present government, as nott to resolve to live peaceably under the protection of it, butt my opinion is, that unlesse his highnesse be very severe with those, that are disturbers of the peace, wee shall never have any certaine settlement. All thinges are quiett in these parts. I have nott further to trouble you with at present, but remayne

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

Dalkeith, Feb. 27,
1654.

Your very loving freind and servant,
GEORGE MONCK.

Mr. John Brooke to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MOST EXCELLENT HIGHNES,

THE two persons I formerly made mention of, then in Carlile, are lately returned into these parts, where the elder brother, a captain in the last ingagement under the then earle of Derby with one Edwards, his associate and fellow renegade from Carlile, doe with that secrecy sculck from place to place, as it is somewhat difficult to surprize them; but for the most part they sojourne in Flintshire, where they were last weeke seen and met by a gentleman of my acquaintance, whose sonn had for some few days deserted his parents, and betaken himselfe to there association. If your highnes thinke it requisite, and order there apprehension, I doubt not, God willing, to effect it.

I alsoe heare, that there is a person of note under the borrowed name of Harrinson conceales that of his owne of sir John Digby. I know not the person; but if report may take place, hee hath been, if not at present, an eminent adversary to the publique peace. Hee doth frequent the taverne opposite to Turnestile in Holborne, from whence the taverne had his name, if the signe be not altered. The master of the house knowes his lodging by the name of mr. Harrinson, soe that if hee should prove any person of danger, hee may be that way detected.

Feare of being tedious to your highnes patience prohibits mee to speake of any thing that concerns my native country, Cheshire, where my relations as to the publique service, interest in and alliance to most of the principall gentry therein, enables mee to manifest upon your highnes commaund, who are most zealously affected to the present government, and for piety and prudence in the magisteriall function are of singular note amongst us. I have presumed too far, and shall ad noe more; but blessed be the Lord, who for the love hee had to these nations, hath set you over them; and graunt you more and more all enlargment of heart, with spirituall graces and wisdom to goe in and out before soe great a people committed to your charge and government. I am

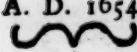
Norton neere Warrington,
Feb. 27, 1654.

Your highnes most obedient
subject and souldier,
JOHN BROOKE.

Capt. Thomas Wilson to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

YOUR'S I this evening received, dated the 26 instant, and according to your order, I have by a file of souldiers and a sergeant sent up the gentlemen you mention, mr. Samuel Sainthill, Ferdinand Carew, Henry Pike, Christopher Hatton, Franciscus Albertus, Anne Roberts; and having this opportunity (although you doe not specifie him) one Ganley,

A. D. 1654.  an Irishman (whome formerly I gave you account of) who we suppose might be a priest, because of his shaved crowne, which he denies, and pretends great poverty. You may please, sir, to satisfie your selfe in him: he is a schollar, and spake Latine against his will to us, and Latine papers we found about him. Sir, pray be pleased to release the souldiers of their chardge of the gentlemen, as soone as may be, because we shall have want of them. I shall referre it to your direction, how the souldiers chardges shall be defrayed; being best acquainted with the proceedings of that nature. At present (going up) the gentlemen were free to beare their chardges betweene them, upon the souldiers carrying their portmantles for them.

Sir, you also order mee in your letter to keepe in safe custodie one mr. Richard Broughton, whome I secured with the other gentlemen at my sergeants house in towne, having very few lodgings heere, (which I heartily wish were otherwise, that I might have an eie to them) for gentlemen, and set a good guard upon them, and was heere untill this day in the morning, and upon the receipt of your letter I sent to my sergeant, and acquainted him, that I had received your order to send up the gentlemen, and mentioning this mr. Broughton amongst the rest, and what your pleasure was as to him, he then told me, that mr. mayor of Dover about 10 a clocke this morning had given him a passe, and let him goe, and about 11 a clocke rode towards London. Having wholly broke the rules of his highnes order, which was sent to him, as to other ports, not to release any without order from above. At which, when I heard it, I was exceedingly troubled, that he should presume to take any man from our guards, and release him, and never so much as send to me to advise in it, or to let me know what he resolved to doe, knowing that I secured him. Whereupon, sir, immediately (upon the receipt of your's, and hearing of it) I went downe to mr. major, and asked him, if such a thing was done by him, as I had heard; and he confest, that upon a merchant and a vintner's engagement with one mr. Skynner the elder, and one mr. Carlisles, he had released him about 10 or 11 a clocke. I asked what moved him to such an unreasonable and inconsiderate act, to release a person, that I had sent up his name and condition to your selfe, and received no returne or answere, untill now; it being a standing rule to me, to release no person, after I had once sent up his name, notwithstanding any importunities to the contrary, untill I have an order for it, and that he indeede now had noe authority at all to intermeddle in it, as being a commissioner on the old commission for the passe (which in this act he went upon) the busynes being resolved and committed to my selfe, as to the executive part of it, and that he would not send unto me to advise with me in it, when any such addresse or application was made to him; when as I (not he) had secured him. His answere was (being as slender as his act) that he was sorry for it, and wisht he had not done it; and that he had sent to me about it. I told him, I would certifie his carriage in it, for they were not matters to be dallyed in. Sir, I have done the best I could thinke of to endeavour his apprehension againe, and chardged, that Carlisles, the vintner (who knowes him) to post after him, and to labour to apprehend and secure him, wherever he finds him; and to that end gave him a warrant, and dispatcht him away this evening. He hopes to meet with him.

Sir, I am very much affected at these crosse providencies, but, the Lord willing, I shall labour to prevent any such sinister practices to my utmost for the future, and will chardge our guards and the persons, where they shall be committed, to let none goe out of their handes and custodie, without an order under my hand, or personall order in it. Sir, as for your direction towards the close of your letter, concerning the acting upon his highnes last warrant, directed to me and others, his highnes direction as to the provision in the execution thereof shall be very strictly and precisely observed for the future; and will goe to the commissioners, and let them understand soe much, and the rules which must be attended. Sir, if mr. major had a sharpe letter sent to him from you, I hope it would doe him good; for he is both weake and heady; for Wright's busines was much on such a scambling account. Sir, mr. Price and mr. major, it seemes, gave you an account of a coll. who pretends busines to his highnes, and some others. Pray be pleased to let me receive your order in it, sir, not having else at present to give you further trouble, I remayne,

Dover Castle, Feb. 27, 1654.

Honoured sir,

your humble and faithfull servant,

THOMAS WILSON.

SIR,

This Broughton is a fat and short young man, about 26 yeres old, longe, darke, browne haire; goes like a souldier; he pretended to goe visit a sifter at Huish in Somersetshire, when he was examined and secured.

Mr.

Mr. James Powell to Secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Doe with all thankfullnes humbly acknowledge your respect in favouringe me with a letter by the messenger, which indeede doth import a very significant testimonie of his highnes good opinion of and favour to this place, which I hope, and am perswaded, will be a corde of soul to tye them in affection to his highnes, and allsoe to their duty and care to answer the true ende of government, that people may live peaceably in all godlynes and honesty under them. And I may say truly, if not proverbially, of Bristoll, that if any fort of people, under any forme of religion whatever (beinge peaceable) doe want a place quietly to use their consciences in religion, let them come hither, and they may. Wee have soe much libertie and peace, that wee doe even surfit upon it. The quakers are very provokeinge, yet truly wee pittie all our freinds, that are led captive in that error, and hope they may returne; and doe use all gentlenes possible, unles it be those that are very exorbitant in their behaviour; and I am confident, noe magistrates are more afronted by them then ours are.

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiii.
p. 311.

Sir, the mayor and aldermen doe make it their humble request to your honour, that you woulde be pleased to present the inclosed to his highnes from them.

I had some few things to offer to your honour, that are of some concernment (though of another nature then the premises) but the messenger is dispatcht soner then I thought, therefore doe take leave, craveinge leave to signe my selfe

Bristoll, Feb. 28, 1654.

Your honour's most humble and faithfull servant,

JAMES POWELL.

*The information of John Stradling of Chedsey in the county of Somerset, gent.
taken before major Boteler, Feb. 28, 1654.*

WHO faith, that upon thursday was fortnight, being the 8th day of this instant, John Dowthwaite, in the county aforesaid, sent his letter to this informant, by one Robert Webber, of Chedsey aforesaid, husbandman, from the market at Bridgwater, charging the said Robert to deliver it with his own hand, which he did. The substance of which letter was, that this informant should meet the said Dowthwaite at Enmore, on the day following in the afternoon, without fail, as he tended his future happines; and accordingly this informant went to Enmore, and met him at the inn there, according to the time appointed; and the said Dowthwaite took him out of the house into the backside, and there told him, saying, cousin John, there is a private design intended, which I am not to disclose unto you as yet; but as you tender your good, provide yourself horse and arms to meet me at John Morfe's house in Ashcott, where others are to meet me according to their appointment about 7 or 8 a clock; where and when this informant met him, but found him alone waiting for the rest of his comrades coming as he said; and we tarried there for them till about 10 of the clock; and seeing they came not, he perswaded me to go along with him, leaving a note behind him at the said John Morfe's, that captain Stephen Dyer (who sojourns at the said John Morfe's) should come after him; and so this informant and the said Dowthwaite rode along together all that night, and in the morning early they came to the house of one mr. John Bayley, a sequestered minister, living within two miles of Frome in Wilts, and the said Dowthwaite knocked at the door, and called to the said Bayley, who came very hastily down stairs, with his stockings in his hands, and bade them very welcome; and presently the said Dowthwaite and Bayley went aside in the kitchen, and had private communication together; then came into the hall again, and desired this informant to walk into the kitchen, and sit down by the fire with them; and presently John Dowthwaite desired mr. Bayley, that he would use a means, that he might speak with one major Leveridge presently; and the said Bayley answered, that the major had appointed to meet him that morning, to see a cock-sparring, and the said Bayley went out from them, and about two hours after the major came in to them, and told them, the business was all undone; they were betrayed and discovered. And the said major farther said, that he had provided 19 men to be at his back; and that there would have been a strong party, and they should have rendezvoused near Salisbury, and the design was to have fallen upon Marlborough horse; but the design being discovered, he advised the said Dowthwaite to speed home, to avoid suspicion of being from home at that time. And a little before the said Dowthwaite and this informant went away, mr. Bayley came in again, who told them, he did call the said major privately from the company, where they were met at the said cock-sparring, and sent him presently to us. And this informant farther faith, that he asked the said Dowthwaite

Vol. xxiii.
p. 321.

Vol. III.

3 A

about

A. D. 1654. *W* about the plot, as they two were coming to mr. Bayley's house, the reason why he would go so far from home, if the design was such a general rising, as he had told this informant; he answered him, that he had rather go farther from home, if he should do any mischief, or kill any body, chusing rather to do it amongst strangers, where he was not known. And that at their return to John Morfe's, who said he looked for their coming back, for he had heard where he had been, there was a discovery of the business; and he would not for 100 l. he had been along with us. How we should come off, he knew not; but if he had gone, he knew how to have come off, for he had a mistress at London, and would have gone to see her, and would not have returned. And the said Dyer told this informant, he was confident this was a plot of my lord protector's own devising; and that he had some of his owne agents in it, to discover such as had an hand in the business. And farther this informant saith, that he asking John Dowthwaite, who should fall in upon our parts, meaning Somersetshire, he answered, that col. Francis Wyndham had undertaken it, and he was to fall upon Tawnton horse, and sir Hugh Wyndham to assist him; and that sir John Greenfield was newly come down from London, on purpose to fall upon Plymouth, and to command those parts. And that this design was first put on foot by the levellers, who were to be aiding and assisting to the cavaliers; and the Londoners were to fall upon the lord protector. And this informant asking the said John, what the king would do for garrisons, he answered, that Hull was to be delivered to him for his being there. And that the king was waiting at sea for an opportunity; and the time appointed for the execution of the whole business was tuesday the 13th of this instant (which the said major also told him) and that on tuesday night at 12 a clock they should have fallen in upon Marlborough horse. And that this informant asking him, what was become of col. Slingsby, he said, he did believe he would be in the party before they fell on; and the said Dowthwaite was the only man that drew this informant into the design.

JOHN STRADLING.

Major Boteler to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

Vol. xxiii.
P. 329.

I Was marched out of this place 10 miles towards Marlburgh yesterday, met your highness's messenger at one of the clock, and returned back againe to Bristoll that night; and having acquainted the officers of the garrison with your commands, in order towards the demolishing of the castle, I did also let the magistrates of the towne understand, that part of my letter, which referred to them, and especially how well your highnes resented their patient spirit towards all good people, earnestly beseeching them at all times to manifest the same spirit, then the which I did assure them nothing could more indulge your highnes favour towards them. My lord, they desired to present their humble thankfulness and duty to your highnes, as also their sense of the great obligations you have allwaies layde upon them, to answer which they profess you may ever expect their readines to obey your highness with their lives and fortunes. This morning C. Watson came downe to my lodging, and I finde him unwilling any thing should be done towards the throwing downe the castle as yet. I shewed him what your highness commands were to me; but he conceives he himselfe should have an order from your highness or from the governor. I easily see what is in the bottome; but I am not willing to see. Indeed, my Lord, if your highness so please, I would humbly begg you would appoint some other person to oversee this work, or else C. Watson himselfe. There will be all respect and civility had towards mrs. Scroope in the doinge of it; nor is there any feare of disturbances or tumults. I shall stay here till it be made untenable; and unless your highness see other cause, I would not stay longer; for 'tis a very deare place to our souldiers, and every way a badd horse quarter. The magistrates have consented mrs. Scroope should take her owne tyme in the mansion-house; and shee does very well understand your highness respect to her in this matter from me. The order, which should have been inclosed to the deputy governor of Chepstow, was forgotten. I humbly desire it by the next post. I shall with all care and privacy performe your highness trust in that perticuler; but to send a partye to Chepstow without your highness's order to the deputie, would be in vaine.

Bristol, ult. Feb.
1654.

Your highness's in all obedience,

W. BOTELER.

Col.

Major Boteler to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Beginn to feare I shall prove troublesome to you in multiplyinge letters; and yet I know not well how to avoyde it. One cause of it is, that I would not be tedious to his highness; and the other is, that I might not omitt any thing of duty incumbent upon me. In my last I gave his highness an account of an information brought to me against one Stradling, (a copy whereof I sent up.) I have Stradling here under restraynt, and have examined him upon the information. He denyes both all and some of it. The informant mr. Gyll being a merchant of this place, and a well affected person, and of good repute, is ready to make oath of the truth of the said information, and does most solemnly profess 'tis meerly his affection and faithfulness to the commonwealth, that moved him to give it against Stradling. I would gladly know, whether his highness may not thinke fitt, that both complainant and defendant should be convened before him, that, if possible, the truth might come out. And 'tis thought by many, that Stradling (though he be a poore rogue) is able to discover as much in the late plott as any one man. I have collonel Slingsby and colonell Piggott under restraint also, and would willingly understand my lord's pleasure as to them; but that I conceive will depend upon Stradling's account given to his highness. I humbly thank you for the caution you gave me as to the lifting of more men. Some of the captains have lifted some; and would be much obliged to you, if they might know, whether his highness expects they should be dismissed, and upon what termes. Pardon this double trouble from him, that most assuredly is,

IA. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiii.
P. 333.

Sir, your very faithfull freind and humble servant,

Bristoll, ultimo
Feb. 1654.

W. BOTELER.

Your messenger mett me 10 miles off this towne yesterday by 1 a clock, and went hence at 3 this afternoone: he desires this may be certified.

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Have received yours concerning the commitment of those foure gentlemen, and I shall endeavour to improve satisfaction where I conceive it will be most usefull. It is very sad, that there should be breaches among such as have gone together in this worke. The cause is the same as it was, and I am very well satisfied, that the way we are in doth as much answer the end thereof, as any other way that I have knowne to be proposed; but surely it is that, which speaks aloud to us, that the lord should suffer such a divided spirit to be amongst us, as to force such an extermitie, which I am perswaded nothing but what my lord did suppose necessary, could have satisfied his highness to have dealt so with these persons, who have bine so eminently faithfull to the publique interest. The les of these extraordinary actions the better. Forbearance to such (unles publique safetie be concerned) will be to the advantage of the worke we are engaged in. I might speake it with comfort; my experience in this hath bin such, since the change of this government, that I am sure the effects (through mercy) are very manifest even amongst those, who were formerly dissatisfied. This pretious good man, captain Kingdonn is one, who deserves my lord's perticular countenance, he being a very faithfull servant to his highness, and of a healing spirit, and hath made it his business to prevent mistakes and misapprehensions. He deserves your favour. He comes fully instructed to my lord protector, in relation to all our affairs here. I am very glad to hear his highness hath declined the legislative power, which by the instrument of government in my opinion he could not exercise after this last parliament's meeting; and therefore those thinges, which wee heare are attempted to be done in England concerning Ireland, will be prevented through the want of that power. I shall entreate you will be assisting to this bearer in what concerns us, which will oblige

Vol. xxiii.
P. 337.

Ult. Feb. [1654.]

Your affectionate humble servant,

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

The

The mayor of Bristol, &c. to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiii.
P. 325.

WE have for some years together been very apprehensive there have been those amongst us, who in order to their own ends have strenuously endeavoured by their tongues and pens to asperse the civil government and people of this city; which design the better to effect, they have of late, upon more refined pretences (yet altogether untrue suggestions) laboured to bring us under a more severe observation, and to render us incapable of trust and favours from your highness. Such we acknowledge have been the numbers and qualities of their complaints and informations, that they could not but deserve an examination to pass upon them; and therefore, as soon as we received intelligence, that your highness had so appointed it, and entrusted a person of such honour and integrity in the management of this service, we judged it a special evidence, in that we had so fair an opportunity to clear and vindicate our innocency and faithfulness. We must confess, that major Butler did most impartially proceed, and by the return he yesterday received from your highness, do understand, hath made the like impartial representation. The humble aim of this our address is in all due observance faithfully to acknowledge the many signal expressions of favour and respect unto this city, mentioned in your highness's letter to major Butler, communicated to us; and more particularly in giving order for the present compleat dismounting of the castle, and thereby a restoration to our lands and inheritance. What protection and tenderness we have hitherto exercised towards all sober and peaceable Christians, we shall endeavour to maintain and uphold; and those manifold encouragements we have now received from your highness, will very highly engage us and the whole office to the due observance of publique commands, and a peaceable conformity under your highness's government; who shall ever remain

Your highness's most faithful and humble servants,

Bristol, Feb. 28, 1654.

J. GONINGE, mayor.
RICH. VICKRIS, alderman.
RICH. ALDWORTH.
JOHN LOCKE.
JOSEPH JACKSON.
GEO. HELLIER.

Mr. F. Burghill to col. W. Goffe.

HONOURED SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 145.

IF I had noe other motive then my obligation to acknowledge the favours I received from you at my last beinge at Whitehall, I should not venture to trouble your more serious occasions with these few lines; but havinge sadly considered the present state of affayres with you, and knowinge what hath happened in the gentleman's businesse (in whose behalfe I wayted upon you) since I left you, beinge affectionately bent to serve both the one and the other, I could not forbear to impart my reflections unto you, whereof you may make use as you think fitt, and pardon my freedome as an effect of my well wishes to that union, which I am assured will prove advantageous to both parties.

Being therefore, sir, altogether certayne of the gentleman's earnest desire and reall designe to lincke himself wholly to the protector's interest, and knowinge withall his extraordinary parts and abilities of nature, perfected by many experiences, and elevated by the dignity of his quality, I am undoubtedly confident, that his publique appearinge on the protectour's side, and on his behalf, would contribute more than can easily be conceived to the quellinge of those rebellious plotts and tumults, which are now on foote. He is a man, whose waye and manner of action is bold and effecacious; his tongue good, his person gratefull, his skill and industrie in a generouse suitinge himselfe to the severall conditions of men's humour, soe eminent, that I cannot beleive there is a man in England of the like capacity to serve his highnesse, even in these present troubles. His open and free declaringe himselfe in that interest would astonishe and shake the nobility; his publique appearinge in all the considerable parts and companies of the citty, and his authentick relations of the impertinent proceedings and narrow-hearted intentions of the Englishe, who governe abroad would undoubtedly soone undeceive and turne the hearts of the malecontents of our nation into peace and quietnesse. What swaye such an example soe well managed would have amongst the better sort, you may well imagine; and from these hints you will easily inferr the rest, which my feare of beinge troublesome makes me unwillinge to rehearse as longe. This I insinuate only out of my respects and longing desires

desires of both their good and prosperity, which I am sure will follow from their first and firme conjunction, whereunto your helping hand will not a little contribute, which will one daye be acknowledged as the greatest good you ever did or can doe to either of them. Lett me add, that though his highnesse seeme to have all the reason in the world to suspend his admittance in this nicke of time, and conjuncture of affaires, havinge noe such securitie of the gentleman's intentions as might satisfie a prudent and cautious man, to whome hee is yett unknowne; yet if once they meete, his highnesse will finde that every daye's delaye was prejudiciall to his interest. This briefly, sir, from both theirs and

your most faithfull humble servant,

Paris, Mar. 10, 1655. [ft. no.]

T. BURGHILL.

If you are at any time pleased to write to mee, cover your letter with a paper thus directed, *A monsieur monsieur Holden, au petite Navarr a Paris*; and it will come safe to yours:

The superscription,

*For coll. William Gough, at his house
in the lower end of Whitehall Garden,
London, these.*

Bordeaux, the French embassador in England, to his father.

March 11, 1655.

MY LORD,

SINCE my last there hath past nothing in my negotiation, whereof you will have heard the condition to be bad enough. The obstinacy, which the ministers of the council do declare upon the two propositions, which do occasion the obstacle at present in the treaty, doth cause me to apprehend a rupture; to prevent which, I have again made an overture unto them of some expedients, which do seem very reasonable unto me, and wherewith they ought to be satisfied. At the same time I declared unto them, that if they would not accept of them, I had nothing more to do, but to take my leave of the protector; but whether it be, that they believe, that our interest will not permit a rupture, or whether they will try, whether my threats be affected, I know not. In the mean time, I draw no satisfaction of all my care and pains, and am resolved to take my leave on monday, if there arrive no differing orders from the foregoing. Those, which I have received to day, do not oblige me to change my conduct, nor likewise to add any thing to my foregoing letters. It was so late before I received them to day, that I had not time to write to the earl of Brienne, nor to his eminence. Both they now do agree, that it had been more convenient *de ne point remuer ces difficultez*. That was my opinion, and I would not make those propositions, till after I had received their expresse orders; nor is it of greater consequence *de s'en departir apres la demande*. If you chance to see any of the lords of the council, you may impart so much unto them.

A letter of information to general Monk.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

I WAS very latly solisitated to act in a designe, wherein the commonwelth in generall, and your honor in perticuler, were hiely concerned; the perticulers whereof were these. Your person was first to have benne secured; then major generall Overton to have given out orders, and to have drawn 3000 foot, besids horse, into the field, and sone after to have marcht for England, where the lord Bradshaw and sir Arther Haselrig was to have joyned with them very considerable forces; and that vice admirall Lawfon was ingaged in this designe, with a squadran of the fleete; that coll. Pride, coll. Cobbit, coll. Ashfield, lieutenant coll. Mason, lieutenant coll. Michel, lieutenant coll. Wilkes, and severall others were also ingaged in this plot; and your person was, according to my relation, to be seized one by captain lieutenant Crest, who to that purpose was prepared by captain Ward. That which was entreated of mee was, to ingage a party in this regiment, that so they might have free passage through this garison, and a party to joyne with them. This designe was to breake forth some tenn dayes since, by which time, as I was tould, the declarations of the grounds of this revolt, being now in the presse, would be ready. All this I thought my selfe obliged to impart unto your honor; and whether it prove true or fals in the execution, I beseech you to take it as a duty from me, unto which the security of the commonwealth, and that of your person, hath obliged mee. I shall only intreat you, not to require of mee the name of the person, that reveled it, for that I obliged my selfe to concele before the discovery. So humbly entreating you, that no eye may see these lynes but your owne, I rest your honor's most humble servant.

VOL. III.

3 B

A letter

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

MONSIEUR,

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
p. 58.

IL est veritablement des affaires d'Angleterre, comme d'un horologe rompu, estant certain ce que tel escrit, que rien n'y est certain, & que *partiri non potes orbem, solus habere potes*. Je ne say pas comment on s'y peut gouverner; la sagesse de Salomon n'y fuffit pas pour prévoir les maux, qui arrivent de jour a autre. Les plus heureux sont, qui s'en meslent le moins, & voudrois bein favoir quel soit votre conduit & dessein. Icy ne faisons que contempler, *ut mari in magno turbantibus æquora ventis e terra magnum alterius spectare laborem*; & comme cy devant c'a esté inutile & vain, quand les ambassades de voisins se sont voulu mesler de ces affaires, aussy l'est il bien encore hors de propos. On y est comme un tonneau de vin & de biere, qui travaille soy même, & se doit expurger & purifier soy même. Je m' imagine que les sieurs envoyes extraordinaires d'Angleterre tant icy qu'ailleurs doivent estre bien en peine & perplexité: heureux est l'infant, qui connoist son pere: malheureux le serviteur, qui ne connoit ny ne sçait pas a qui il soit. Il me souvient avoir ouy autrefois discourir (a l'occasion du feu roy de Boëme) que chacun n'avoit pas la teste fait pour porter une couronne; mais je trouve, qu'aux Anglois les testes ne sont pas faites pour porter la liberté; au moins pour encore ils le portent ou supportent

mal. En effect les 174 sont contemplatifs sur ce qui ce fera & arrivera en Angleterre, Roi d'Ecosse prince d'Orange capt. general si 138 rentre: ce fera monstrent le chemin a 148 neantmoins: ces 147 monstrent bonne mine, comme si ils ne craignent rien; mais il y a bien de croire, qu'ils en jugent bien autrement en leur coeur; cependant ils previennent le danger par flatterie: *quanto quis obsequio promptior, &c.* & que dirat on: c'est ainisy les cours du monde: il a esté ainisy devant nous, ainisy fera après nous. Je suis

Vostre tres humble serviteur.

Ce 12 Mars, [1654. N. S.]

Mr. Jonas Cudworth to col. Charles Worfeley.

DEARE SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 49.

MY enemies (though satisfied I am none of the commonwealth's or protector's enemy) cease not to persecute mee with violence soe farr as they have power. They incensed col. Howard against mee, to whome I have given satisfaction, and hee perceives their villany. Upon a strict examin I beleave both Dawson and Bonner will appeare to have declared themselves unsatisfied with this government; and cannott make appeare any thinge acted by them for establishment of the same, further then led by perticular revenge. I have since enquired further concerninge what I writt of in my last, and it is evident, that major Birridge, whoe was major to the earle of Newcastle, brought divers comissions from the kinge of Scotts to severall gentlemen in the contry, and was entertained 20 dayes at Seaton Dellavella, neer Tynmouth, the gentleman of the place professinge himselve a frende, but generally reported otherwise. Hee married Lisle his daughter. I heare alsoe amongst our gentry, that one mr. Byareley, a rich gentleman his father is reputed to bee, hath disbursed 200 l. for horses, and hee with some others should have mett the lord Willoby at Yorke with 500 horse. Willoby was to bee lieutenant generall, as is reported in private, to sir Thomas. 'Tis reported, they are prevented for the present. I have received 2 or 3 lines from mr. Witte, but nothinge of your businesse. I should rejoice to bee able to serve you in any thinge; for mr. Dawson boastes you gott a sownd check for contenanceinge mee against him; which if true, my lord protector was greatly misinformed, since I came to Stella, hee hath done sufficient to cast him out of custome house, if any thing could take hould of him; which I am now out of hopes on, as well as destroy'd from all practice to live, and purely for doeinge good service. God in his mercie direct mee what course to take, and more frendes to be coajutant to mee in this my sad condition. Sir, I have not els to offer to your consideration, but conclud with the acknowledgement of my self to bee

Your faithfull servant,

Stella, neere Newcastle,
March 2, 1654.

JONAS CUDWORTH.

The superscription.

For the honourable coll. Charles Worfeley,
these, at St. Jameses, London.

Mr.

Mr. Henry Sealy to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

THERE was 2 of your messengers with mee this day at Drury-houfe, to have an A. D. 1654.
 account of mr. Thomas Betson a merchant newly arrived at Dover from Antwerp. Vol. xxiv.
 I did then give them what I knew concerning the person, and am now come to give your P. 50.
 honour a farther satisfaction concerning him. I know him to be a marchant that hath
 lived in Amsterdam and Antwerp for severall yeares, haveing been there employed by his
 father in marchandizing; and I doe beeleeve, that his comming over into England at this
 tyme is cheifely to cleare accounts with his father, who I heard lately say, that hee ex-
 pected his sonne, or to that purpose. Wherefore I make my humble request to your
 honour, that hee may bee discharged from any further restraint at Dover, and permitted
 his repayre to London, to followe his occasions, which I the rather desyer, beecause by let-
 ter this day received from him hee writs mee, that his detention there will bee very preju-
 diciall to his one and his father's concearnments; and I am very well assured, that boath
 father and sonne are freinds, haveing alwayes appeared for the interest of this state. I
 remayne, sir,

March 2, 1654.

Your honour's humble servant,

HEN. SEALY.

Mr. W. Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

WHAT is above is a duplicate of my last to your honour, which went by an ex-Vol. xxiv.
 presse dispatched by the merchants traders to Riga, and under cover to the Ruffia p. 56.
 company.

By these your honour will please to understand, that the 27th of last month I was adver-
 tised by my prestave from the chancellor of the possesco office, that the emperor had made
 choice of him for commissioner to here mee, and to deliver in writing what else I had to say
 more than what was done at my audience to his majesty; and the 28th in the morning I
 was assigned to appeare at that office, when I went thither from my lodgings in the same
 manner, as I did the day of my going to the emperor; and the same number of companys
 of musquiteers with their ensignes stood as before. At my arrival to the office, I found the
 chancellor there, with whom I discoursed, and gave him in writing all I have to saye by
 the interpretation of Hebden; to which the chancellor assured mee to referre all to his
 imperial majesty, and with as much expedition as could be, I should have my answer and
 my full dispatch for my returne to his highnesse. The sudden departure of this convey-
 ance doth not permitt mee to write your honour what I negotiated with the chancellor;
 nor doe I thinke to send it by any, butt carrye it myselfe, praying to have my dispatch in
 such tyme as to be at Riga the beginning of Aprill.

Here is come newse, that the Pole hath had another bout with the Ruffe since that
 abovementioned; on which all the commanders and officers strangers that are here, are
 dispeeded for the armye in dilligence.

Yesterdaye the crowne of Sweden's commissary sent mee a vizitt, by a gentleman of
 his, to desire mee to excuse him for being soe long before hee sent to mee, which hath
 proceeded through his indisposition of the gout, having deferred the tyme in expectation to
 have bine able to come himselfe, which he hopes to effect within two or three dayes. I
 doe this daye send a gentleman to him to render his vizitt.

I know not of any thing else, that merits your honour's cognizance: therefore doe
 humbly take leave, and remayne,

Mosco, this 3 of March,
1654.

Right honorable,

your honour's most humble servant,

WILL. PRIDEAUX.

A letter of W. S. from Calais.

SIR,

THOUGH, as you say very well, promotion comes not from the East, nor from the Vol. xxiv.
 West, but it is God that orders it in such way as he pleases; yet since God does P. 76.
 give nothing to us in vayne, hee would not have us to neglect the making any of those
 opportunities

A. D. 1654. opportunities, which hee is pleased to offerr us for our good; and therefore, as wee are not to resist his will, soe wee ought not to resist his dispensations, which his divine providence houldes out to us. I have now the opportunity offered me of doing my friend and those hee governes a publick good, and of receving my selfe, as I hope, a privat advantage by it, either of which I doe suppose I may justifiably endeavour, the one as the other, the law of nature teaching us selfe-preservation; as well as the doing of others good. Wherefore I am not at all ashamed, to insist still in this letter upon what I did in my last; which is, that before I enter any further into any matters; I should bee glad to receive from your frind some assurance at least of his kindnesse and favour, that I may not bee absolutely throwne off to the wide world, without friends or support, and that I may expect to bee provided for by him, after that I shall have lost my selfe every where else for his sake; for though I cannot 18. 12. 25. 19. 17. 34. 36. 16. 40. 11. 31. 37. 25. 30. 17. 23. 40. 26. 35. 37. 34. 36. 35. 36. 6. 41. 17. 12. it is come to my knowledge by 2. 25. 12. 37. 25. 17. 7. 30. 41. 17. 25. and 33. 28. 35. 23. 40. 34. 35. 35. 7. 12. 3. 25. 19. 36. 35. 28. 41. 6. 34. 41. 17. 35. 28. 40. 41. 40. 11. secrecy 35. 7. 25. 39. 12. 37. 36. 40. 41. 6. 10. 40. 35. 28. 38. 40. 33. 35. 11. 37. 40. 43. taking it 26. 40. 37. 10. 37. 30. 41. 35. 12. 16. upon his meeting 2. 12. 25. 19. 36. 7. 25. 12. 35. 7. 40. 34. 10. 32. 35. stealing out of Whitehall 67. that I was not only perticularly informed of 35. 7. 12. 43. 19. 35. 25. 37. 18. 34. 35. 30. 3. 36. 40. employed in it, yet since it is the absolute breaking of 30. 39. 40. 35. 23. 7. 19. 35. 23. 19. 36. 18. 12. 25. 41. 12. 30. 7. 35. 17. 23. 28. 41. 10. by 35. 23. 12. 33. 7. 40. 3. 12. 39. 19. 37. 35. 6. 25. 40. 11. 143. there is noe question 18. 34. 35. 28. 36. 7. 19. 3. by this one action render my selfe 6. 37. 37. 12. 17. 40. 41. 17. 28. 6. 19. 18. 3. 35. 33. 6. 35. 7. 35. 23. 12. 2. 30. 36. 3. 40. 41. 10. 19. 30. 6. 3. 28. 35. 25. and therefore certaynly, when your friend shall seriously consider the nature of this matter, hee cannot thinke it strange in me to expect to bee assured of his protection; before I shall doe a thinge, that will render it impossible for mee to receive it any where else. I am very farr from having the least imagination in this of engaging your friend to a promise of doing mee good, upon the pretence of a service, which afterwards I should not bee able to doe. I desire nothing from him till I have shewne him by the effects, that the service I intend to doe him is not inconsiderable; and then hee will bee able to judge, whether the service I doe him bee worthy his thanks or noe. Sir, I am in such hast to make an end, for feare of loosing this poste, that I feare you will scarce be able to reade the hand, much lesse that which is written in cipher, since I doe not verrey well know my selfe, whether it bee true written or noe. And if this correspondence continue betweene us, I should desire you to sende me another cipher, this which you have sent mee already being very imperfect. Though it is more then tyme I should make an end, I cannot hinder my selfe from representing this to your consideration; first what designe I can have in this that I doe, if it be not to linke my selfe intirely to your friend's interest and fortune; the part I have a mind to act, if hee would give mee leave, being such, that it would bee impossible for mee to have dependance afterwards upon any body but himselfe, though I should intend it never soe much. Next, whether or noe I have not reason to beleieve, that your friend must needs think (how small a proportion of parts soever God hath given mee) I may bee usefull to him in this perticular businesse, considering the 38. 34. 30. 3. 28. 35. 6. 12. I am of, the familiar acquaintance I have amongst all the 153, and the share I have hitherto had of theire businesse. And last, whither or noe I ought in reason to expect, hee will admitt of mee, if in this soe pressing a conjuncture, and wherein I can without vanity pretend to bee in some kinde usefull to him, hee do's absolutely reject the service I offer him; for how slight soever you may make of thes businesse, I know it is a more 130 troope, and in which more 39. 25. 40. 39. 3. 12. 19. 37. 25. 12. 41. 10. 30. 22. 12. 29. 35. 7. 12. 41. 28. 41. 19. 41. 6. 40. 41. 12. 40. 11. the 26. 40. 37. 43. 12. 37. 40. 41. 25. 36. 33. 7. 30. 35. 36. 40. 12. 34. 35. 37. army. 35. 23. 19. by 35. 7. 12. it 25. 6. 36. in 17. 30. it 36. 12. 19. 35. and at the 25. 17. 40. the 36. 6. 16. 12. 37. 19. 18. 3. 25. 28. the 67. 81. 35. 7. 12. am 85. 41. 40. 35. 3. 19. am. 16. 12. 158. 35. 40. 36. 34. 37. 39. it. 6. in. 12. that by 7. 25. am. 23. 19. 34. 25. 10. 6. 34. 12. 41. 1. 19. 3. 29. 36. by 40. 26. 11. and 37. 35. am. thousand armes 81. 3. am 37. 12. 19. 29. 6. 35. 40. 18. 25. 12. 2. 19. 17. 25. 34. 36. 12. and 11. 33. 7. 25. 41. 35. 23. 12. 6. 37. 25. 18. 34. 36. 28. 41. 12. 36. in 12. 36. 7. 19. 3. 18. 12. 37. 6. 39. 25. 11. 40. 37. 6. 35, and which makes mee beleieve the time appointed for it is not farre off, I have been assured this day, that 40. 37. 43. and 41. 29. is in 67. 7. am. 16. 12. 23. 19. 36. 23. 30. 36. at 37. 6. 35. 6. 41. 35. 40. 70.

This plott is soe infalible, that noe discovery can prevent it; which would rather make mee beleieve it were a rediculous one, then any thing else, if I did not know perticularly, it were indeed soe well lay'd, that nothing but his and . . . ignorance together could destroye it. I know very well too, it would not bee hard for mee to have as considerable a share in it as any body, if the offers I have already made of my service to ©, and the naturall aversion

I have to submit to those that have used mee unworthily, did not hinder mee from it. A. D. 1654.
 Sir, it depends on your friend, to dispose of mee as hee pleases. If he thinks that what I have to say may bee of use to him, without doubt the best way were, to let me come and wayte upon him, it being certayne, that I should bee better able to informe him of this businesse in one single discourse, than I should be able to doe by a hundred severall letters. Besides I know very well, that my sifter and some others I would imploy, would bee very instrumentall to mee in it, who it would bee impossible for mee to engage without being there myselfe. If your friend thinks it fittest for mee to be there unknowne, I am sure I could order my journey thither soe, that noe body in the world should suspect it, being easy for mee by the lieutenant gouvernor's meanes to goe out of this towne without being seene, and afterwards as easy to land somewhere in England, where noe body knowes mee, from thence to goe straight to London, where your friend should appointe mee, were noe hard matter; neither should I finde any more difficulty in keeping my chamber there then to keepe it heere, which I have done without stirring out once since my coming to this towne. I suppose you will easily perceive by the earnestnesse I write to you with about this matter, that my inclination leades me rather to come to you, then to stay heere. I confesse it does soe, because I know I should bee able to doe your friend more service there then I can doe being in this place; and I am sure I should doe it with a greate deale of affection. If your friend bee of the same opinion, I shall immediatly, upon the least intimation of his, that hee is willing to it, come away in what manner he shall appoint mee: but if for som hidden causes, which I cannot guesse, hee will not consent to it, I shall then expect from him at least, that he will be pleased to lett mee have under his owne hand some assurance of his favoure, that I may hope the service I shall doe him shall not absolutely bee forgot; but that in case I can contribute something to his advantage, hee will be pleased to owne mee as one, who hee is willing he should hereafter depend upon his fortune; for it has beene my lucke to bee very ill used by those I have deserved well from; and therefore I am the more excusable, if I am a little too apprehensive of meeting with the same kind of usage, though in another place; and if out of that apprehension I am desirous, before I engage myselfe any further in this matter, to have some surety, as to my owne perticular, though the surety I now demaunde would bee, as I conceive, but very smale, if I did not very much rely upon your friend's generosity. Pray, sir, weigh feariously what I have heere said to you, and lett mee have speedily your answer; for I have nothinge to doe heere, but in order to this businesse. In the meane tyme, I aske your pardon for all this trouble, and desire you to bee assured, that whatever fortune I runne, or whether your friend shall thinke fit to accept of the service I offer him or noe, I shall however thinke myselfe obliged by the civilities you in your owne perticular have shewed mee, to bee as long as I live,

Sir, your most affectionate

and most humble servant,

Callais, March 13,
 [1654. N. S.]

W. S.

Another letter from the same person.

SIR,

HAVING had the misfortune not to make an ende of my letter, till it was just too late, Vol. xxiv. I have hyred a boate on purpose to send it after the packett to mr. Whit's, who I p. 73. have desired to send away to you as soone as possibly hee cowl. I hope you will pardon the little expedition I am able to make in this odde way of writing, which I am forced to use, and that you would helpe to ease yourselfe of this trouble I put you to, by endeavouring to get your friend's leave for mee to come to you, which would bee noe small obligation you would lay upon,

Sir, your most affectinate

Callais, March 13.

and most humble servant,

W. S.

This letter is endorfed as follows :

W. S. Calais, 13 March 1654. His desire of a correspondence, and promise of performing some eminent service (in case my lord protector will engage to reward him) namely in discovering of the plott, &c.

Mr. Manning to secretary Thurloe.

Trevair, March 13, 1655. N. S.

SIR,

A. D. 1654.
 Vol. xxiv.
 P. 74

I Have purposely sent this day my servant to Dunkirk, that this letter may be delivered by his owne hands unto the male; and not to trouble you with many impertinences, I shall be as short as may be; and in the first place tell you, being ignorant how to address letters and papers, I have presumed to give my lord president the trouble of five or six, and since one to his highness in one to mr. Malin; but since I understand I ought to have done itt to yourself, but whether mine have come to their hands, I know not, being they never made me the least answer; and I am sure the matter was most considerable, would they have made use of itt as I gave directions; and out of my zeale to his highness welfare, I am not a little troubled, till you informe me how many of mine are come to their hands, which be pleased to doe effectually and without faile by the next. I hope they are soe honest, that I need not repeate any thinge that I have already written, but shall only proceed, and tell you, that in prosecution of it I therein intimated I have *bona fide* spent *viis et modis* above 200 pistoles; and I cannot beleieve that his highnesse will have any serve him a looser. There is something of concernement now, that I cannot omitt to tell you, viz. that your governor of Dover must be either knave or foole; for he hath lately lett pass Willmot and Philipps, Armerer, Halfey, and Daniel O Neile. Some of them he restrained soe carelessly, as if it were a purpose for them to escape, especialy the last. He or the searchers have connived att many's comming over of late, amongst them mr. Jo. Seymour, mr. Trelawney, one mr. Rofs, mr. Manning, a Frenchman or two, all imployed in the capitall enemye's service; also one Griffin and Palmer servants of his, who are now all in England againe, acting their bloody parts by his commands, and looke upon this for a truth. Since his removall from Colen he passed by this toun, and is lurking in this island with Ormond, Blague, and 2 or 3 of his servants, Wentworth, one of the judge Heathe's sonnes, one collonel Price, sir John Mince, as also lately Manning and one mr. Bennet, with one of the lord Coventrey's sonnes are now in Middleberghe, but some of the later named I heare gon for England. It now behooves you to have a care, and that a narrow search be made for these persons immediately in London or elsewhere, for they are pernicious and implacable enemyes to the peace and welfare of the nation. Theise I adventure thus openly and bluntly to give you this timely notice.

Now, sir, if I may be thought considerable to serve his highnes in discovery of the enemyes of the peace, and the depth of their bloody designe, (which I can and will most effectually doe) I pray faile not to write three lines to me, and subscribe your name John Brown, and direct one to me by the name of mr. Henry Mannering, and inclose itt in this cover, and seale itt up also in the cover, and sende a duplicat directed thus, *for mr. Henry Jackson, to be left with captain Bath att the Harp in Donkirk, to be delivered with care*; and I will be sure of having them or one att least time enough to give you an ample and large accompt tuesday next come sevenight. You need not trouble yourself more than to lett me know, what letters they have received from an unknowne hand. Give me a plaine direction by what name and how without suspicion I may send to you; also a cypher with a key; and lastlie to assure me my indeavoures and service is gratefully accepted. Lett me not faile of having a bill of exchange to receive such a some of money as you shall think fitt and proper, in lieu of what I have expended; and to defray the charges of carrying on soe greate a worke. I will not faile being att Donkirk to meet your answer sonday next; and then you may depend of the largest accompt you ever yett had of this businels, and the most of certainty and truth from him, that is, sir,

Your affectionate humble servant,

HEN. JACKSON.

Lett the letter of creditt or bill be drawne upon some merchant at Donkirke.

SIR,

If you think I may doe better service to come to you, then stave abroad, on notice and assurance from you for my safety, I will hire a ship, and come immediately and privately to you; but then let me have directions how to pass in case of examination of your party.

Major

Major Boteler to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

YOU may please to remember I sent his highness an information of one mr. Gylls the last weeke against one Stradling, whome I have since apprehended and examined upon the sayd information, who at the first denyed the whole; but the next morning he sent me word from the fort, (where he was secured) that he desired to speake with me. I sent for him, and asked him, what he had to say to me. He told me, he was now of another mind then he had beene last night, and would cast himselfe upon my lord protector's favour and my intercession for it, and would freely and truly confesse all that he knew concerning the late plott, and accordingly gave me the inclosed information, which is subscribed with his owne hand, whereby you will see he hath made himselfe a party in and guilty of the late horrid plott as well as others; and he does acknowledge frequently he hath deserved the utmost the law can inflict upon him for so great an offence, and does onely fly to his highness mercy, which I cannot but humbly supplicat for him, if his highness please to graunte it. I did upon his information presently send for the severall parties of horse to apprehend the severall offenders therein mentioned, and have taken major Leverfedge, mr. John Bayly, captain Dyer, and John Morfe, and kept them apart till I had examined them, and so shall do still. They are very obstinat, and scarce will be gott to answer to any question, though you will see Dyer hath confest the plott was made knowne to him, and concealed by him, and he invited to it. Leverfedge will confesse litle, though a man may reade guilt in his face (if that were any rule.) But Stradling did witness to his face what he did charge him with in the information, and indeed struck him with palpable feare and amazement. Leverfedge is a man of 300 l. *per annum*, and one that hath compounded for his estate heretofore. Bayly the sequestred parson is the most impudent wretch that ever I mett with; and hath craft to his confidence. I cannot gett any thinge out of Morfe worth the penning, though it seemes upon very probable grounds, that their two houses have been the common rendezvowez for carrying on the worke. As for John Dowthwayte (the very principall verb) I cannot light of him, though I have searched 5 or 6 severall gentlemen's houses, where he uses to sculk, and came within two howers time of him at one mr. Sealick's house neere Bridgwater, in one of whose grounds he had turned up his tyred horse (which we have taken) and is gone thence on foote. But Stradling tells me, he hath so great acquaintance with the malignant gentry, that he will be able to secure himselfe against the strickest search we can make. And on my word, sir, we have gone many a weary stepp after him. Mr. Sealick, to whose house he was last traced, does profess he is altogether ignorant of his roguery, and he is forth-coming to answer for himselfe, if required. Sir Hugh Wyndham and collonel Francis Wyndham are both fledd upon it. I have had a party at both their places of aboad. Sir Hugh's lady did confesse, her husband was gone upon the alarme given by the taking of other gentlemen. I would humbly beg I might know, how his highness would have these prisoners we have taken disposed of. If not to London, I thinke Chepstow would be a safer place for them then where they are. I have ordered the same officer to bring J. W. up to Whitehall, that tooke him (being a most carefull man) and the rather, for that it may please his highness to aske him some questions about his taking him *ipso facto*, who can speake pertinently. I suppose he will be with you on fryday night, and scarcely before, and he can tell you there was a most strict charge given to the officer, who conveyed J. W. and his man to Chepstow, that we should informe the deputy governor, that man was equally guilty with the master, and they were both to be kept close prisoners, and one from the speech of the other, and all the party, which were neere 20, will witness, that my officer did deliver both master and man with that charge to the deputy governor. I cannot but speak of this againe to purge both officers and souldiers amongst us from the guilt of so great a neglect as some body lyes under for the escape of the man. The castle is going downe apace now, and I hope peace making up as fast, at least seemingly; though I feare there are som chores do yet remaine. But I hope, seeing I cannot take them out (for grace must doe that) yet I have buryed them so deepe, the effects of them will not soone appeare againe. I am verily perswaded, his highness hath so farr obliedged this citty, by admitting of a faire and impartiall representation of things, and testifying his credence thereto, which in my very harte was true in every perticular, that neither feare nor love ever made them so much the king's creatures, as this act hath made them his, though here very many that will adventure their all for him upon the best account. And if I thought heere to any purpose, I would tell you how poore our soldiers are, not onely wanting money, but cloaths. Perhapps you may se it convenient to hint it to his highness, but I cannot think he is without such remembrancers. I beseech you, sir, present my most humble duty to his highness.

A. D. 1654. highness. My cordiall service to my deare and honoured friend sir Gilbert, and let me say, I am, sir,

Bristoll, March 3, 1654.

Your verie affectionate faithfull servant,

W. BOTELER.

Since I writt my letter (having had the informant Stradling and John Morfe face to face) Morfe upon his examination hath confessed something making him accessory. But indeed, sir, you will finde Stradling very ingenuous and deserving favour, I am perswaded. The cornet that comes up with J. W. hath beene by at most of their examinations, and can informe you of his carriage.

I had forgotten to tell you, that sir John Greenfeild mentioned in this information is secured at Exeter by captain Croke.

W. B.

Col. Barkstead, lieutenant of the Tower, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 60.

THE last night after I came from Whitehall, mr. Read's keeper came to me, and informed me, that he had some grounds of suspicion, that his prisoner was endeavouring to make his escape; first from several questions he put to him; secondly, for that he had a glasse of water sent him of a pale sea-greene colour, together with half a pound of bees-wax, and a cloth to make a serecloth, of which they that brought it pretended the water to be for to bath his legg, where he hath a bruise, and the serecloth to strengthen his ancle, which he pretends is very weake, and so limps as if he were quite lame; thirdly, he hath observed him for neere two houres this last evening to be with a light constantly about his back window, his light being then out, and, as I beleive, he then gone to bed. I only appointed his keeper and one more to watch the last night under his window, but soe as not to give the least ground of suspition to him. This morning I sent for mr. Read, pretending to speake with him only about my fee, and seemingly was very angry, that he had not as yet taken care in it; and in that time sent his keeper and one officer more into his chamber, and to bring me some of that sea-greene water in a small viall, and to take notice, if any thing was done to the iron barrs, which they did, and found, that about one of the barrs of iron he hath made a coffin of serecloth, which is filled with aquafortis, and that is now a working, and holding neere four spoonefulls of water. That the water they brought me being out of his glasse was aquafortis, or, as some call it, mercury water. Sir, I have returned him to his lodging againe, but have not taken the least notice of it to him as yet; only I thought it my duty to give you this account, and to receive your further advice and directions, in which none shall be more punctuall to observe them, then,

Sir, your affectionate freind and servant,

Tower, London, March 3, 1654.

JOHN BARKSTEAD.

SIR,

I have some thoughts to lett him goe on, and take him in his attempt to escape; but if you shall not thinke that safe, the glasse of water, together with the barre of iron now on eating in sunder, will sufficiently demonstrate his resolution to endeavour his escape, I submitt.

I spake with mr. Light this morning, of which I shall give you an account on monday. Pray remember Somersett Fox, Francis Fox, and Thomas Saunders.

The examination of James Reade prisoner in the Tower, taken March 3, 1654, before John Barkstead, esq; lieutenant of the Tower of London.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 67.

THE examine being asked, of whom he had the aquafortis, which he did put about the bar of iron in his window, and thereby intended to have made his escape, saith, that he spoke for it before he came to prison. Being asked to whom he spake unto for it, saith, that he spake unto an apothecary, whose name he knoweth not, nor never did know, neither knoweth he where he lived then, or doth now live. Being asked how he knew him to be an apothecary, saith, to his best remembrance he was told so by one mrs. Humphreys. Being asked where the said mrs. Humphreys liveth, saith, he thinketh she liveth

liveth in King's-street Westminster, and is a chandler's wife there. Being asked, if he spake not to his surgeon about the said water, to bring it in to him, he saith, he did not speake unto him or any other since his coming into the Tower for it. And farther saith not.

JAMES READ.

The said James Read being farther asked, whither he intended to go, if he had made his escape, saith unto Holland. Being asked, what time he intended to attempt it, he saith, he knows not the particular day or night. Being asked, if any in the Tower were to further or assist him in the said escape, saith, not any one; for he is not acquainted with any in the Tower, nor hath spoke with any since he came to the Tower, other than his keeper, that do belong to the Tower. And farther saith, that he could not resolve of the particular time of making his escape, until he saw that the means which he used had accomplished his design; and farther saith not.

JAMES READ.

Col. Barkstead to Secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

THE inclosed is a copy of what I could gett from Read. I find him a crafty fellow. Had not I met with the bottle of water, and alsoe found the water in a coffin of bees-wax, then eating one of the bars of his window, into which it had eaten a pretty way, he would not have confessed, that he intended to have made his escape; for after I had done examaineing of him, and that he had scarce time to breath, but he immediately begun to cry out, that the water and wax was sent him out of a designe and purpose to betray him. I have taken care of his security, as well in his lodging, as by putting on a pair of substantial shakles on him. I shall use all the meanes I can to find out from whom he had his water, though I may confidently affirme, he hath not had commerce with any but his keeper, whom I know to be honest, and mr. Deane, since he came into the Tower. Sir, I feare I have by this scribbling given you trouble; for which begging your pardon, I take leave to subscribe mysele,

Sir, your affectionate friend and very humble servant,

Tower, London, March 4,
1654.

JO. BARKSTEAD.

SIR,

I intended to have been with you to morrow morning, but having received a summons to meet the militia of London at that time by 8 of the clock, I thinke it my duty not to neglect that businefs, and shall therefore wait on you with the first opportunity.

Capt. Unton Croke to the protector.

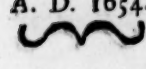
MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

REceiving your commaunds on saturday night last by the post, I made all possible speed Vol. xxiv. to repayre to Weymouth, to receive an account of the late detention of my soldiers, P. 91. and alsoe to be informed of the particulars your highnesse gave mee in charge, and I have most faithfully and impartially, according to my best judgment, and as the brevity of time would alsoe permitt, couched every particular in this enclosed narrative. Hitherto your highnesse hath (I confesse) received noe satisfaction from mee concerning my lieutenant. Indeed, my lord, I know not how he stood in your highnesse's thoughts, nor what was the reason of his long absence from my troop. I only accidentally heard, that he was deteyned uppon suspition, that he did not well rellish the present government. My lord, I thinke hee is more a stranger unto mee then unto any officer in the regiament. He was placed in my troop (but not by my choyce) immediately before the tyme your highnesse gave mee liberty to attend my lord Whitlocke into Sweaden; soe that before my going thither I had not a weeke's acquaintance with him, and since my retorne I have had as little of his companie, soe that I am verry incapable to know his principles. But, my lord, I am informed by others, that know him very well, that hee is of a dangerous temper, and neither well inclined to the good old way of God, nor to the government of your highnesse. My lord, this I thought my duty to speake, not out of any prejudice I have to the person of the man, from whom I have received all respect that could have beene expected, but that I could not bee silent, having soe fair a call from your highnesse to spend my opinion. I professe, my lord, I am soe far from desiering his continuance, that I rejoyce at your highnesse's resolves in giving him his dismissal; and since your highnesse is pleased to

VOL. III.

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A. D. 1654.  thinke of such a course, I beseech you, my lord, grant me the liberty of making an earnest request unto your highnesse, which if you will be pleased to grant, I shall freely engage all that's deare to me in this world, that your highnesse shall never have cause to thinke your favours - - - - - It is, my lord, that my cornett (who is a playne, downeright, honest man, one that is well principled, and that hath boorne commaund in my troop now for more than 5 yeares, and an exceeding good and carefull souldier) may be my lieutenant, and that your highnesse will conferre my colours on a brother of mine, who hath been some yeares in my troop, and is not unapt for the place. He is, my lord, well disposed, and, I hope, of a gracious spirit. The high sheriffe of Devonshire col. Copleston hath lately honoured him with one of your highnesse's commissions for a companie (which he hath already rayfed) in his regiment; but, my lord, I imagine that that is now neer at an end; and therefore it is, that I presume thus earnestly to importune your highnesse in this manner, hoping I may live to expresse my gratitude and to declare more amply then hitherto I have had opportunity to doe, how much I am,

Weymouth, March 5, 1654.

May it please your highnesse,

your most faithfull and obedient servant,

UNTON CROKE.

A paper of capt. Unton Croke concerning col. Sexby.

Weymouth, March 5, 1654.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 87.

THE mayor of the towne, captain Hurst, the governor of Portland, captaine Green that commaunds a frigatt, and cornett Brockhurst, that belongs to Jersey island, confessed to mee, that the souldiers demeaned themselves very civilly without giving offence to any; and the reason why they were deteyned, was purely uppon this account, that they came to search for colonel Sexbey without an order in wrighting.

The grounds
and just cause of
suspicion, that
Sexby was at
that time in the
towne.

The souldiers came unto Weymouth on the 20th day of February last past, about 5 a clocke at night, made some enquiry at a distance, whether colonel Sexby were in towne or noe. They were told, that if he were in towne, he was at captain Arthur's house, (who is the grand customer of that place, but a man esteemed of no good principle) for their he was servant to a lady, to whom for many yeares he had professed friendship, and many people thought that it still continued. One of the souldiers throwing aside his armes, addressed himself to the said captaine's house in qualitie of a countryman, and knockt at the dore, whereuppon a maid servant came unto him. The souldiers asked her, whether colonel Sexby were in the house or noe, for he had a desire to speake with him. She replied, she could not tell, but she would in an instant informe him, and so went in and called mrs. Ford unto him, Sexbie's supposed mistresse. When shee came, she demaunded of the souldier his businesse: hee told her, hee had a message and letter to deliver to colonel Sexbie. She desired to know from whom; the souldier answered, from a very good friend of the colonel, one mr. Hugh Courtney. Mrs. Ford said, that the colonel was not within, but if he would leave the message and letter with her, she would take order to have it delivered unto him, that soe a time and place might be appoynted for them to meeete. The souldier told her, that unless hee could see him, he would not deliver the letter, and soe departed. Immediately after this mrs. Ford calls one Dudley unto her (who is deputy to captaine Arthur, and acts all things under him) and tells him, that their were troopes in towne enquiring after colonel Sexby: shee willed him to enquire, if he could, what was the businesse; and if he could learne it, shee desired to be informed before any souldiers came down to the house to make search after him. He promised he would make enquiry, and then went up to the inne where the souldiers quartered, and entered into discourse with them. Hee told the souldiers, that hee knew their businesse, and what it was they came about, and told them it was to apprehend Sexbie. And for his part he loved the protector soe well, that he would assist them in the businesse. He said, that Sexbie was in towne, and at the house of captain Arthur; and if they should bee wise, and keep his councill, he would carry them to his very chamber dore; but he told them, that they must search very well, for the house was large, and many by places in it, that without a strict scrutinie little good will bee done. The souldiers were very joyfull at this newes, and did intend that night, though very late, to goe and search the house; and when they were provided and ready to goe, Dudley's mind changed; he denied all that was said before, and would not goe forth with them; soe that all the businesse for that night seemed to bee quashed. E're this tyme the news went for currant about the towne, that souldiers were come to apprehend col. Sexby; whereuppon coronet Brockhurst, captain Lambert, one

These words
Dudly confessed
to mee.

All these words
Dudly spoke to
my souldiers,
which they will
depose of.

major Hardinge, and mr. Waltham; (the two last, I am credibly informed, are highflowne men in their principles, and direct friends to Sexby and Joyce) these 4 much questioned, why it was the souldiers should come to looke after any man without a written order. Some of them examined the souldiers, who presently confessed the design; and notwithstanding that they made out what they could, to whom they belonged, from whence they came, and what was their business; yet they thought it convenient to secuer the souldiers, and that night some of captain Lambert's seamen were placed in the house, where the souldiers were, to take care, that none should come to them, nor they goe to any. The next day the souldiers were had to the mayor, and by the instigation of the aforesaid gentleman, he thought them very fitting to be secured, untill such tyme as he should send for captain Hurst, governor of Portland. He desired the souldiers to repaire to their quarters, and entreated coronett Brockhurst and captaine Lambert to bare them company, which was to watch over them. About noone captaine Hurst comes. They encited the captaine to proceed against the souldiers, as they had done the mayor before. He concurred with them; for the souldiers were then disarmed, and made prisoners indeed.

By this it appeares, that if Sexby were in the towne, he had libertie enough given him to make his escape.

I doe find, that the mayor and captaine were very innocent from any designe in the business: they did it meerly at the request of others. Neither can I learne, that either the mayor or captaine have any relation or neer acquaintance with Sexbie; but some of the other gentlemen have.

I cannot discover what the principles of the captaine are. They are not much taken notice of any way; but sure I thinke by his discourse, he desires to be quiett, and doth not appeare to be of a turbulent spirit. I pressed him to discourse as to present affayres, but he was very wary. I asked him his thoughts of major general Harrison, who was his prisoner. He was very affectionate towards him in his expressions, often saying he was a good man. He told mee, that the major general had desired libertie of him to speake upon some places of scripture sometymes to his souldiers, which he had granted him; and he did usually preach to them. Their is noe commission-officer but himselfe in the castle; otherwise I had discoursed with more. The captaine told mee, that he had little acquaintance with Sexby; but he knew Joyce very well, and hinted to mee, as if he owned all his preferment from him. Hee told me, that he was at London about three weekes since, and desired to speake with Sexby about some business, but could not, for he was then told, that Sexby was with his highnesse, and that he had much conference about the plott; but that he heard Sexby was very free, and gave satisfaction. He told me, that col. Harrison wondered to heare, that Sexby should bee suspected. He thought him only to bee a decoy for his highnesse, because he observed all those that Sexby had been with were secured; but he himself at libertie, though pretended to be searcht for. Col. Harrison alsoe added, that Sexby was with him, but he knew him to be a treacherous fellow, and would have nothing to doe with him. This imperfect unmodelled narration is all that at present can be made forth by

A. D. 1654.

Major Harding said, that if Sexby had been in their hands, that they having no written order, he would endeavour to rescue him out of their hands. He said alsoe, that Sexby was soe qualified, and had done such good service for my lord, that he wondered any should come to looke for him in that manner.

But it is the generall saying in the towne, that Sexby hath not been in towne neer this twelve months. Captain Arthur's wife, a very godly woman, did avow to me, she had not seen him in much longer tyme; and mr. Thorne, the pastor of the gathered church in Weymouth, did affirm to me, that he was confident there was much knaverie in the information of Dudley, and that what mrs. Arthur spoke was truth.

UNTON CROKE.

Mr. Manning to secretary Thurloe.

Brouges, March 16, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

SINCE the writing of my other letter I understood much more of very high consideration, not fitt to be inserted in paper without a cipher. Therefore if you please to send me a pass next post under the directions to Donkirk, I will not faile to come away immediately; but withall I pray send a bill of exchange or letter of credit for some money for me, to be received in Donkirk on sight; and if you would have me stay here, or &c. a cipher and a perfect directions how to send to you without suspicion. Sir, I pray faile not to write to,

Sir, your unknowne, but faithfull servant,

HENRY JACKSON.

I shall expect your answer: therefore pray faile not to write.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburgh, to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

BY the last weeke's post I remitted you a duplicate of monsieur van Berg's letter, who, I presume, is long since with you. From all parts of Flanders and Holland they have for

Vol. xxiv.
p. 119.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 98.

A. D. 1654. for this ten dayes past storied strang things, as that C. S. was certainly landed at Hull, and that the people generally rose with him; that eleven regiments of the army were revolted, and his highness gone to Windsor Castle. That letters were gone post from C. S. to the kings of Denmark and Sweden, and to all his freinds in the empire, to give them notice of his good successe, and to hasten their assistance. But this last post from Amsterdam not fully seconding the former newes, the cavalier party are somewhat crest fallen both English and Dutch, yet still very heigh and confident of C. S. his beinge landed in England; and that he will carry all before him, which I cannot contradict, save in my thoughts, haveinge not had a letter from you or any friend at Whitehall since the second of the last month, which is some troble to me to be soe forgot at such a tyme, lying open to soe much danger here, as I doe, if it goe not well at home; and that, which ads to my care is, that I cannot yet heare from the expresse I sent to Berlin and the ports upon the Baltique seas. Doubtles he may have miscarried, by reason the fresh waters are much out at present in all parts; or that he may prove false to his trust, which yet can only hurt in the matter of disappointment. If within two or three daies I heare not from him, I will send another after him, which is a hard matter to find here; I mean a trusty person. Sir, if things should come to an extreimity in England (which I trust in the Lord they will not) I hope and desire I may not be left to shift for myselfe, but that a ship may be sent to bringe me off with reputation and safetie. I presume you will not thinke me forward in thus writeinge, considering what I knowe of the designs of your enemies, and how little of the present passages in England, which with the inclosed weeklye paper is all I have to trouble you with, resting, fir,

Hamb. March 6, 1654.

Your humble servant,

RICHARD BRADSHAWE.

Fleetwood, *lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.*

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 93.

I AM sorry to heare any should expresse their disafection in any way of passion unto publick offence; for surely 'tis more the way of the Lord, in humility and patience to waite upon him, where there is dissatisfaction in present dispensations and providences, then to manifest that, which the natural man is so apt to runn out into in these cafes. But there is a hand of the Lord in it, and wee are to waite upon him to know his mind therein; and be confident of this, that my lord's tendernefs to good people, though dissatisfied, will returne with double mercy to himselfe and government. And indeed his way, which I heare he labours in to give satisfaction to Christians, is that, which will be a singular blessing upon him. I am hopefull you will find the saintes to grow up unto more union and love: I am sure therein wee have a choyce mercy heere. I understand by yours, that the four courts are going up heere. I confes I am still of the same opinion the councill was of, that wee needed at present no more than a chancery and common plea; and I hope though you impower us to sett up all the courts, you will leave the tyme for the doing thereof unto us. The charge will be so extraordinary, and the difficultie to gett honest and able judges at present may, I presume, be an argument against the setting up any more than the two former; but if our charge be increased, I hope you will also increase our renew. Wee have now begun the busines of our partial transplantation. The council on a very serious debate doe thincke they have a power to transplant all that expect any benefitt by the qualifications by the act of settlement. However at present wee proceed to doe it gradually; and to revoke it, I beleive, must be the exercise of the legislative power. We find by our private intelligence, that both Scottish and Irish are in great expectations of some sudden change in England, which may encourage their attempts heere. They are given to believe, that my lord of Ormond and Inchequin or some of that gang will be suddenly heere, by letters, which wee have intercepted, which comes from the Irish agents in England, who presse hard for money to follow there agencye; and one letter says, that if they had but 500 l. they would gett of transplantation. They very well understand their opportunities of doing mischief, and givinge publicque disturbance, which will be prevented, if that worke goes on prosperously. Wee must expect difficulties in a worke soe great and good; but I trust the Lord will owne us in it. I am glad my confidence in collonel Sankey hath not deceived mee. He is come over with great satisfaction and affectionate faithfulness to his highness. I am,

Your affectionate humble servant,

March 6, 1654.

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

The examination of William Collinson, esq; captaine in colonell Fenwicke's regiment, taken upon oath March 6, 165 $\frac{1}{2}$.

WHO faith, that upon or about the fourth day of January last past, hee beinge com-
manded with captaine Miller and captaine Newman in the same regiment by lieute-
nant colonell Wilkes, deputy governor of Leith, to examine major generall Overton con-
cerninge some perticulars, and to search what papers hee had with him, amongst other
papers there was found severall unhandsome verses relateinge to his hignes the lord pro-
tector, written upon the backside of an old letter; who beinge taxed for haveinge
them, desired this deponent to give him them backe againe, or deface them, for that they
might doe him some hurt, and this deponent noe good; and that hee might live to doe
this deponent as good a curtesy; which beinge refused, the said major generall asked his
servant, mr. Ramsay, how hee came by them, who answered, sir, you heareinge a fidler's
boy finge them in London, you write them.

A. D. 1654.
In the posselli-
on of the
right honour-
able Philip
lord Hard-
wicke, lord
high chancel-
lor of Great-
Britain.

March 6, 165 $\frac{1}{2}$.

W. COLLINSON.

Sworne before mee,
H. WHALLEY.

The examination of John Miller, captaine in col. Fenwicke's regiment, taken upon oath the 7th of March, 165 $\frac{1}{2}$.

WHO haveinge heard read the examination of captaine Collinson within written, sayth the same is true in every perticular and clause thereof; saveinge that hee remembreth not, that major generall Overton asked his servant Ramsay how hee came by the verses mentioned in the said deposition, or what answer his said servant returned to him.

JO. MILLER.

The examination of lieutenant col. Timothy Wilkes, deputy governour of Leith in Scotland, taken upon oath, the 7th of March, 165 $\frac{1}{2}$.

WHO faith, that the verses mentioned in captaine Collinson and captaine Miller's de-
positions beinge brought unto him by the within named captaine Collinson, captaine
Miller, and captaine Newman, who were appointed by this deponent to make search, what
papers of dangerous consequence could bee found in major generall Overton's port-mantue,
this deponent the next morneinge beinge in company with the said major generall, the
major general said to this deponent in theise words, sir, you have some verses taken from
mee in my letter-case; and said, I hope noe advantage will bee taken against mee for
them; to whom this deponent answered, that it was not his worke to judge him, but to
deliver them to the generall. The major generall replied, sayeinge, I hope noe advan-
tage will bee taken, for they were but for the tryall of my witt.

In the posselli-
on of the
right honour-
able Philip
lord Hard-
wicke, lord
high chancel-
lor of Great-
Britain.

March 7, 165 $\frac{1}{2}$.

TIMO. WILKES.

Sworne before me,
H. WHALLEY.

The further examination of the abovenamed capt. Collinson and capt. Miller, taken upon oath the 7th of March, 165 $\frac{1}{2}$.

WHO say, that haveinge heard read the deposition of lieutenant colonell Wilkes above-
named, for themselves severally depose, that in or about the time abovementioned,
when major general Overton was put into a boate to goe on shipboard prisoner to
London, the said lieutenant colonell told theise deponents, that the said major
generall had owned the makeinge of the verses abovementioned in theise or the like words,
that hee hoped noe advantage would bee taken against him for them, for that hee made
them onely for the tryall of his witt.

March 7, 1654.

JO. MILLER, W. COLLINSON.

Sworne before me,
H. WHALLEY.

VOL. III.

3 E

Copy

Copy of the king of France's letter to the admiral Vandomme, dated the 17th of March 1655. [N. S.]

UNKLE,

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
p. 125.

THE complaints that I daily receive of the loss, that my subjects sustain on the sea by the piracies of the English, which they continue to exercise on them, with the small appearance of their ceasing, have made me to take the resolution to stop all their ships, that are (or may arrive) in the ports of this kingdom; by which means to oblige them to render to my abovesaid subjects the justice due unto them.

I have thought fit to write you this letter, to let you know, that immediately you give orders necessary to all lieutenants and officers of the admiralty, and others to whom it may appertain, to seize and assure, in all ports and harbours in their jurisdiction, all the English ships that shall be found, or that hereafter shall be released, and to hinder them, that they go not out of those ports; and in particular those that have been formerly released. The execution of which I will that it continue, till farther order from me; the which I assure myself you will willingly perform. I shall be no longer at present, but desire the Lord to keep you in his protection.

Signed

LOUIS.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg, to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 99.

YESTERDAY by the weekly post I writ you what offered here. This morneinge I have it thus from Paul Roll, that he finds a generall rejoycinge by C. S. followers left there, and that C. S. must be in the north of England; that Bristoll, Hull, and Berwick, with many other places, are in danger. Farther, that chancellor Hyde hath letters, that two of the cheefest complotters of the designe are persons in disguise, viz. Armorer and O Neale, and that upon a curious examination of those two, a discoverie may be made of all. Hee saith likewise, that one day, clerke of the passage of Dover, hath permitted many dangerous persons to pass into England. From another friend there I have it thus of the same date $\frac{1}{2}$ instant.

The neighbouring princes of Germany continue their armature. The prince elector of Cullen is gone to Leige to levie men; wherefore unknowne: letters from Hidelberge affirme, that contrary to the thoughts of many, the prince elector hath exchanged severall most kind letters with C. S. Sir, I trust by this tyme you have foe fully discovered and secured the contrivers of your ruine, as that by the next I shall heare good newse from you. Theise goe in haft by a bowyer of this place for London, which if the winde stand will be gone this day; foe may probably arive longe before the next post, if not before that, which went yesterday. The Lord have you in his keepeinge, and direct your counsellors for the good of his people. I cannot yet heare from the expresse I sent to Berlin and the ports in the Baltique sea, but hope shall in a day or two; otherwise I shall conclude him miscaryed, and foe shall send a second after him, though I hope there's nothings formeinge there that can hurt yow. I am,

Sir, your very humble fervant.

Hamb. March 7, 1654.

SIR,

The above is a copie of myne this day by a bowyer, and this by another vessel in his companie, that the first arriveinge may come to hand.

To his highness the lord protector and his council,

The humble petition of the merchants, and masters and owners of ships, and others that have sustained losses by the Portugese,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 103.

SHewing, that albeit, that many of them have already had full examination and just reports upon their cases and damages grounded rightfully, as is stated in the annexed, and the rest of their cases are likewise ready to be reported; yet to take away all objections, and to bring it to a final conclusion, they humbly propose, as an expedient, that the said reporters and their whole cases may be referred to doctor Walker for them, and any one the lord embassador of Portugal will choose for him, and the commissary for the queen of Sweden here resident, as a person of honour neutral and indifferent, to be umpire; and whatever they all three or the said umpire alone shall adjudge, award, and determine, to stand firm and be final and obliging to all parties, which they humbly hope your highness and council will hold reasonable.

And do submit, &c.

The

The case of the English merchants and masters and owners of ships and others that have sustayned loss by the Portingalls.

THAT it was agreed between the former parliament and the ambassador extraordinary A. D. 1654. of the kinge of Portingall, and the said ambassador did oblige himselfe by the 2d of the said preliminary articles, concluded the 29th day of September 1652, that all ships, monies, goods, and debts, belonging to any of the English, which have bin seized in any of the dominions of the king of Portingall, shall be forthwith freely restored *in specie*, continuing of the same value and goodnes as at the tyme of the seizure, or if not *in specie*, or if they be impaired by occasion of the seizure, that then satisfaction shall be made to the true vallue of them as when they were seized; and concerning reparation for damages, the same being ascertained according to the declaration of the councill exprest in their paper of the 15th of November 1652, the said lord ambassador did also engage himselfe for the satisfaction thereof; and by the 5th article of the said preliminaries the said ambassador did further oblige himselfe, that all ships and goods belonging to the English, that were brought into Portingall by Rupert or Maurice, or any ship under their command, and are disposed of, or are remaining there, or by them or their order carried back from thence, shall be restored forthwith to the proprietors, or satisfaction or reparation given for the same.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 104.

That to the end the demands of the English merchants and others, as well by the 2d article as the 5th, might be stated and ascertained, the then councill of state did by their commission duly signed and sealed, and dated March 22, 1652, authorize and impower doctor Walter Walker, Andrew Riccard, alderman of London, mr. Thomas Crowther and Thomas Player, jun. esqrs; or any two of them, whereof the said doctor Walker to be one, to hear, examine, and regulate the demands of the said merchants and others, and thesein to joyne with doctor Jeronimo de Silva de Azevedo, Francis Ferreira Rebello, and Licentias Vitalem de Zoufa, or any of them appointed by the said ambassador on his part, to examine the said demaunds, in case they or any of them should be present at such tyme and place, as should be agreed upon; or otherwise they the said doctor Walker and other the English commissioners to proceed by themselves, as by that commission appeareth.

That the said doctor Walker and the other English commissioners, in pursuance of the said commission, did often meet and debate with the said doctor Jeronimo de Silva and Francis Ferreira Rebello, and others named by the said lord ambassador of Portingall; and after several conferences and debates did come to several conclusions, and make several reports of the cases and damages sustained by the English by the Portingalls; for which repayres ought to be made, according to the 2d and 5th preliminary articles and the said commission, and did likewise agree upon more cases, and were ready to reporte them.

That albeit the commissioners for the lord ambassador of Portingall did not subscribe to the said reports, yet they were from tyme to tyme made acquainted with them, and the grounds and reasons, whereupon they were made; and had free and full liberty to offer or object against them; but neither did nor could object any thinge materiall; soe that by the rules of justice the petitioners hope they ought to have satisfaction according to them.

That notwithstanding, to prevent all manner of cavillation, that the said ambassador or any of his may make, the petitioners doe humbly propose as an expedient, that the said ambassador may nominate the said doctor Jeronimo de Silva, or any one other of his agents whom he pleaseth, as the petitioners do nominate the said doctor Walker for them, presently and with convenient speed to debate the matter before and with the commissary for the queen of Sweeden here resident; and they three together, if they can agree to settle and conclude thereupon; or otherwise in case they cannot all agree, then the said commissary of the queen of Sweeden, as a person of honour, newtrall and indifferrent, to heare and determine upon all the said differences, losses, damages, and demands, and whatsoever shall be by them all three or by the said umpire alone settled and determined in the premises to be final and binding to all parties, and to be paid and satisfied to the Englishe accordingly, without any manner of further denial, contest, or cavillation whatsoever.

And if the said ambassador, after the progresse already made, shall not assent unto this so reasonable expedient, the petitioners do humbly hope, that it will then cleerly appeare to your highnesse and the councill, that it is a meere evasion of the said ambassador; and that the reports already made for the losses and demands already settled may be affirmed, and the rest of the reports not yet sent in, ordered to be transmitted, that the petitioners may have right done them, and repair for their losses and damages, according to equity and justice; the laws of God and man requiring, that due amends be made by the wronge doers to the wronged; and the petitioners and their wives and children being many, being in danger to suffer ruine and be undone, if satisfaction be not made them.

The petitioners therefore well knowing the piety and goodnes of your highnesse and your councill, do caste themselves and their just and righteous cause at your highnesse's feete, and humbly begg your highnesse's well knowne justice thereupon.

To his highness the lord protector of England, Scotland and Ireland, &c.

The humble petition of divers merchants, masters of shippes, and others, who have susteyned losses by the Portugalls.

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
p. 106.

SHeweth, that whereas your highnesse, in concluding the late treaty with the lord ambassador of the king of Portugall, was pleased to take notice of your petitioner's late losses and damages susteyned by the Portugalls, and by the 25th article specially to provide, as for the hearing and determining the same, so likewise for satisfaction there, which your highnesse's justice and great care your petitioners doe with all dewtie and thankfulness humbly acknowledge; the petitioners submissively present, that the said king since the returne of the said lord ambassador hath made a decree, by which your petitioners humbly conceiving (for the reasons hereunto annexed, together with a true coppie of the said decree) the fruits and effects of your highnesse's intended justice and favour will be frustrated, your petitioners unsatisfied, the decree restraining the words of the said article in such a narrow sence, as stands not with the genuine construction of them, and contrary, as your petitioners humbly conceive, to your highnesse's meaning.

Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray, that your highness would be pleased before the final ratification of the said articles, that all ambiguities in words may be cleared, and the sence of the 25th article fully explyned; that so your petitioners may receive effectual satisfaction for their said losses and debts, according to justice and equity, and more sure prevention of all future differences and disputes.

And your petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

Samuel Vassal	William Rider	Thomas Hollis
Humphrey Aldington	Daniel Farvacks	John Roy
Thomas Fossel	Richard King	George Clerke
Hamond Ward	John Dickons	Thomas Canham
Henry Pettit	Thomas Bowyer	James Gower
Eleazer Parker	Peter Jackson	Stephen White
John Haywarde	Jeremiah Backhouse	William Sympson
Humphrey Holcombe	William Greene	John Clarke
Richard Wilfon	John Hasell	Samuel Sroynoke
N. Opre	Gilbert Keate	Thomas Ewen
Richard Lobb	Christopher Boonefor	Andrew Raudg
Stephen Irvill	John Willmott	Lambert Pitthes
Richard Crandles	Alexander Beme	Walter Mainard
Benjamin Whitcombe	Robert Lant	George Keate
Nathan Wright	Alexander Howe	Luke Lucey.
Edward Bushell	Lu. Lawfon	

Indors'd by secretary Thurloe,

Petition of the Portugal merchants, delivered the 7th of March, 1654.

The decree of the king of Portugal.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 108.

I THE king do make known to all that shall see this my decree, that for as much as I have been pleased to resolve to satisfy the English the losses, which they have received by reason of the general sequestration in the year 1650, as well of the ships that were at Brazil, as those that were in this kingdom, and all other goods and sugars, that were imbargoed and are not yet restored, and likewise the freights of the ships, which the Brazil company is obliged to pay, and what else shall appear remained in his hands or power; my will and pleasure is, that for satisfaction of the aforesaid, the English producing current papers in form, in the manner that is agreed upon in the 25th article of the peace, which now is to be celebrated, that from henceforward there be a separation made of all the half customs, which the English are obliged to pay in the alfandiga of what goods soever they shall bring into this kingdom; the which half customs shall be charged upon and deposited in the hands of two English merchants, to be named and approved by the English nation, who shall give receipts for the same to the treasurer of alfandiga (or custom-house) for what they shall so receiving, with obligation that the said monies shall be divided to the interested in ordinary payments, or proportionably, as hereafter it shall be agreed upon, but with this condition and declaration, that notwithstanding that the said monies are to remain from this time forward in the hands aforesaid, yet they shall not make the said division, or payments,

ments, till after the publication of the peace in this city, with the solemnities accustomed, A. D. 1654. and in this conformity let this my alfara be intirely observed and kept, as is therein contained, without any doubt or contradiction whatsoever. John Parera made it in Lisbon the 20th of Jan. 1655. and I Francisco Guede Parera caused it to be writt.

KING.

Exceptions taken by the petitioners to the king of Portugal's decree.

1. The decree limits, that there be a separation made of the half customs, which the English are obliged to pay to the alfandiga, which word alfandiga in the singular number the petitioners humbly conceive restrains the payment to be out of the customs of all other ports; and so near one half of all customs of Portugal is taken away, besides all duties of fish, which amount to a very great value; for that is paid *in specie*, and never brought into the alfandiga.

2. The decree limits separation to be made of all the half customs, which the English are obliged to pay; which words [which the English are obliged to pay] exclude the petitioners from the half customs of all other people, save the English, though members of the common-wealth, and inhabitants thereof; whereas the 25th article obliges the half customs of all goods whatsoever of the people and inhabitants of this commonwealth that trade to Portugal for payment.

3. The words of the decree [of what goods soever they shall bring into that kingdom;] which words [they shall bring] the petitioners fear will be made use of, to exclude them from the half customs of all goods brought into that kingdom, though for the account of the people and inhabitants of this commonwealth, if brought in by any other shipping of any other Nation, or by any other people in English vessels.

4. Again, those words [into this kingdom] the petitioners conceive will be a ground for the king's officers to deny the petitioners the half customs of all goods exported.

5. The decree is not, as the petitioners humbly conceive, agreeable to the words of the 25th article, in the limitation of the commencement of the separation; the decree having ordered the separation to begin from the date of the decree, whereas the 25th article says, it shall begin from the date of the treaty; by which device the petitioners shall lose near one whole year's customs, for that no fish, and but very few goods, will be brought into Portugal the remaining part of the year, being summer season.

6. Whereas the decree requires, that the English shall produce current papers in form, in the manner that is agreed upon in the 25th article of the peace, the petitioners understand not the Portuguese meaning, by current papers in form, according &c. therefore they desire the full meaning of the king of Portugal may be explained, the petitioners being doubtful what will satisfy the Portuguese in that particular.

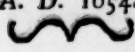
7. The decree reciting the grounds of it to be to satisfy the English for their losses, and instancing in the freights of the ships of the Brazil company, are obliged to pay, it is thereby declared, that for the satisfaction of the aforesaid, separation shall be made of the half customs, the petitioners, owners of the ships, humbly conceive this to be contrary to the 2d of the 5 preliminaries recited in the 25th article, which says, that all monies and debts shall be restored *in specie*; and therefore that debt ought to be paid by the said company, who by charter-party were obliged to pay the same; and the other petitioners humbly conceive it to be a great damage to them, to charge so great a payment upon the customs, which will very much delay the payment of their debts.

All which the petitioners humbly present and submit unto your highness with this, that if payment should be made according to the largest extent and acceptation, which the words of the 25th article will bear, the petitioners should not be satisfied in less than 10 years, but according to this decree, they cannot be paid in 20 years.

A copy of a decree of the admiralty for restoring 30000 rials belonging to the king of Spain, or the proceed thereof, to his ambassador.

OLIVER lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging, to John Sparrow, Richard Hill, Richard Blackwall, Samuel Wilfon, Humphry Blake, and Robert Turpin, esqrs; commissioners for prize-goods, greeting. Whereas by lawful and sufficient proofs made in the high court of admiralty of England, it is manifest and doth appear, that the silver mentioned in the schedule hereunto annexed and marked with the mark in the margin of the said schedule, lately taken and seized in the ship the Morning Star, whereof Michael van Lubkin was master, by some of the ships in the immediate service of this commonwealth, did at the time of the seizure aforesaid, and still do properly belong and appertain unto his majesty

Vol. xxxvi.
p. 301.

A. D. 1654.  the king of Spain, and were loaden on board the said ship by the order of Andrea Piquenotti, a factor for the king of Spain, on the charge of the inwoyces of the said king, for the payment of his army in Flanders; and thereupon the worshipful William Clerk and John Godolphin doctors of laws, and Charles George Cocke, esq; judges of the said high court of admiralty lawfully proceeding have decreed the silver mentioned in the schedule hereunto annexed, and marked as in the margent of the said schedule, in case it be extant, otherwise the proceed to be released and discharged from the seizure aforesaid, and restored and delivered to the lord embassador of the king of Spain or his assignee for his use. But it appearing by the said proofs, that the ship the Morning Star did fight with the ships of this commonwealth, by whom she was taken, they have therefore pronounced just cause of seizure, and ordered the freight due by law for the same, and the expences in this behalf due to be paid. These are therefore to authorize, will, and require you, or any three of you, upon sight hereof, to release and discharge the silver mentioned in the said schedule annexed, and marked with the mark in the margent of the said schedule, in case it be extant; otherwise the proceed thereof from the seizure made thereon as aforesaid, and restore and deliver the same to the lord embassador of the king of Spain or his assignee, for the use of the said king, he the said lord embassador or his assignee paying the freight due by law for the same, and the expences in this behalf due. And for your so doing this shall be your warrant and discharge. Given at London in the said high court of admiralty under the general seal thereof the 7th day of March 1654.

JOHN RUSHWORTH, } Registers.
WILLIAM ROWE, }

The schedule mentioned in the commission hereunto annexed.

Thirty thousand rials of plate or pieces of eight, and four Mexico coin being in two cases having 15000 rials in each, nailed up, and marked and numbred as in the margent.

JOHN RUSHWORTH, } Registers.
WILLIAM ROWE, }

Montgomery, March 7, 1654.

The examination of Robert Lee of Criggion, gent. who was in the late king's time called by the name of lieutenant colonel Lee, taken before us the time and place aforesaid.

Vol. xii.
p. 448.

TOUCHING the said plot faith and denies, that he is any way privy or consenting to the said plot; or that he did any way contribute thereunto; and that he did not directly or indirectly promise or engage to promote the said plot, or engage any men therein; and that he went upon tuesday last to Shelvocke to mr. Thornes, with an intent to go to Wrexham fair with the said mr. Thornes, to bear him company; but upon wednesday last hearing of some combustion, the said mr. Thornes and this examinee resolved to stay at home; and this examinee did stay at Shelvocke aforesaid till yesterday, that his wife sent for him. And further faith, that he was at Burrough-Acton in the county of Salop near Righton Park about a fortnight last past, where he heard, that lord Herbert of Cheshire, the lord Newport, mr. Fowler the elder of the Grainge, and several other gentlemen, whose names this examinee doth not know, were hunting; where they continued for some time, but how long this examinee doth not know; and further is not required to be examined.

A true copy,

Tho. Lloyd, Hugh Price,
Ed. Vaughan, Tho. Niccols.

ROBERT LEE.

The examination of John Penryn of Yorndrine in the said county, gent. taken before us the time and place aforesaid.

Vol. xii.
p. 449.

TOUCHING the said plot, faith, that he is not any way privy to the lifting of any men, or raising of any force, or levying of any war against the lord protector or the present government. And denieth, that he did move or sollicit any person or persons to engage in the said plot, or that he knoweth of any other, that had any hand therein directly or indirectly; and denieth, that he had any discourse with mr. Ralph Kynastone touching the

the said plot, or the carrying on of the said design, or that he doth know of any that A. D. 1654.
had any hand in the said rebellion. And confesseth, that he was upon thursday last in the evening at William Smyth's house, but did not any way act or assist the said plot. And further is not required to be examined.

A true copy,

Thomas Lloyd, Hugh Price,
Ed. Vaughan, Tho. Niccols.

JOHN PENRYN.

Commissioners for the southern expedition to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

According to the 5th article of the instructions given to us by your highness for the Vol. xxiv.
management of the affairs of southern expedition, we were to consider what forces P. 113.
and supplies will be fit to be sent after the fleet; and the time of sending; and in what manner: do therefore humbly offer, that if your highness shall think necessary to send such a supply, 'tis very requisite, that some speedy course be taken for providing thereof; and the season now offering itself, and the necessities of the fleet much requiring the same, as also of the forces, whose accommodations (though seasonably provided) went not away with them, we have thought it our duty to present the same to your highness, and humbly remain,

Your highness's most humble servants,

Old Jury, March 7,
1654.

Andr. Riccard, William Rider,
Maurice Thompson, William Williams,
William Williams, Thomas Alderny,
John Limbery, * * * * *
Martin Noell,

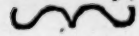
Provisions to be made for the West Indies.

- 40 or 50 CARTES to guyde the cours by sea.
100 Brals blunder bushes.
800 Carbyns, 3 foot barrell coliver bore, and all one boare, with belttts, fubinels and runners.
2000 Girdel pistells for the foote.
200 Long barrell musketts of 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ foote barrell snaplands;
2000 Handgranades.
20 Morter peeces of the larger diameter.
200 Granados for them.
20 Pitars.
2000 Half pykes, 800 for the carbyns heereabove;
4000 Swords and belttts.
4000 Musketts.
2000 Pykes.
2000 Light sadels, and 2000 bridles, 4000 pistells and holsters.
1000 Head peeces, breast plates, and crossletts of each.
1000 Quilteth coates.
100 Coates of mayle.
1000 Steel spates off the best.
300 Pickaxes.
500 Shuffells.
500 Handbarrowes and wheelbarrowes.
4000 Deal bords.
100 Wooden bytells with the handles throw the head.
100 Iron crowes.
300 Iron sledges.
200 Sharpe thessells of all sorts.
200 Boringe agers of all sorts.
400 Pound weight off spykes and great naills.
200 Ferre balkes of good lenght, and soe that 2 men may carry.
100 Of the longer sort off spars.
1000 Felling axes, with holes in the body, handles throw the head.
100 Hatchers, with holes as the axes.

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
P. 116.

100 Broad

A. D. 1654.



- 100 Broad axes for carpenters.
 200 Single hand-sawes, 100 two-hand-sawes, 50 pit-sawes, 30 whip-sawes, 100 fyels for the sawes.
 Blacksmiths, locksmiths, and armorsmiths.
 12 Paire of bellys, iron, and tools of all sorts, peet and coals, &c.
 For every ship feshengs netts, turtell netts, turtell irons, fishhookes, harpinge irons, fishgykes, &c.
 Cloathing of all forts for 6000 men, 6000 hamackes, or lennen to make them.
 50 Hand-miles to grynde coren of that country.
 Carpenters, stone-masons, briclayers, sayers, and coopers.
 12 Kettles, with 2 or 4 little guns or peeces, and every great ship or wherry with oares, and some with skulls.
 All kynde off provision for every shipe, among the rest, cedar a good quantity, meal well stampt in barreles, besides biskuit or bread, and gunpowder for sea and land service, and the like, &c.
 Phisitians, Chirurgyes, &c.
 To take more then ordinary off hartally and lyme, pitch, tarr, &c.
 Indorfed by secretery Thurloe.

Provisions to be made for the West Indies.

A particular estimation for the present expedition as follows.

Vol. xxiv.
 p. 114.

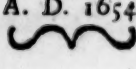
1. **B**Read for 8 months, all to be put in the bread roomes and casks, except two months for the first expence.
2. Beeffe and porke, 6 months.
3. Meale sifted, found stuffe and well dried, to answer two months, which will make the provision of beeffe hold out 8 months, which will answer the bread.
4. Pease for 5 or 6 months.
5. Rice, oatmeal and wheat, to answer fish, except the first two months.
6. Butter and cheese for two months, oyl to answer the rest at a pint for four mele a day.
7. Beere for two months, or ten weeks, syder and vinegar to answer the remainder all or the most part of the caske to be iron bound.
8. All water casks to be iron bound.
9. Salt to be provided here, to be taken aboard at the isles of Sale, as they sayle al on the waye.
10. Amunition clothes of fine vittery canvice.
11. Shirts of lockrume.
12. Linin hose.
13. Ordinary white felt hatts.
14. Hatchetts.
15. Short cutlasses.
16. Tow hand sawes, not soe broad as used, but truly mad.
17. Hand sawes all of the best and finest make.
18. Axes and iron commanders and iron weages.
19. Pitch, tarr, and trayne oyle, thurmes, twyne and leather, and what else may be fitting for to carreen the ships.
20. After the fleet is at sea, and cleere of our coast, then the men to sett 5 tow 4 mens lowance, which will lengthen out all provisions.

Commissioners of the customs to secretery Thurloe.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

Vol. xxiv.
 p. 123.

NOW is come unto our hands a letter from the officers at Gravesend, signifying that there are divers come in there from out of a shipp, in which an ambassador from the king of Poland unto his highnesse is now arrived, being not part of the ambassador's company, but passengers; and amongst the rest one Matthew Hutchim, whom they thinke is very suspicious; all which persons they have kept in safety; and inclosed we present to you their letters and examinations. They also signified unto us, that while they were agitating this affair, came in one Wilford, who much abused the officers with revyleinge language, opposing the authority by which they acted; saying it was none, or to the like effect, whom they have also secured; and what they could gett out of him is herewith sent to your honour. We pray your honour's pleasure to be made known unto us, that we may

may transmitt the same unto the officers at Gravesend, with what expedition your greater A. D. 1654.
 affairs will admit for their guydance and direction; and that we may have leave to
 subscribe, 

Custom house, London,
 March 8, 1654.

Your honour's most humble servants,

EDM. AMERY.
 ROBERT TICHBORNE.

Inclosed in the preceding.

Gravesend, March 7, 1654.

RICHARD Wilford aged about 32 years or thereabouts, faith, that he came down to Vol. xxiv.
 Gravesend with a brother-in-law of his, and hath been there these three days: faith, p. 100.
 that he is engaged to raise a regiment of horse. Saith further, that he is well known
 to his highness the lord protector; that his father was sometimes governor of Dover
 castle; that about the 10th of April last he came from Rotterdam, and hath remained
 here in England ever since. That during the time he was in Holland, he lived at the
 Hague at the queen of Bohemia's court, and sometimes in the prince of Orange his
 army, and was an ensign under the lord Goring. Saith, that he never did bear arms
 in England, Scotland, or Ireland, of either side.

Richard Wilford abovenamed affirmed what is above written to be true in the presence
 of us,

ED. PELLING,
 JOHN MORRIS.

Gravesend, March 7, 1654.

Gerard Paw, aged 22 years or thereabouts, faith, that he is son to the scout Paw of the Vol. xxiv.
 Hague, nephew to the heere Paw, late one of the lords ambassadors from the states P. 101.
 of the united provinces of the Netherlands to the state of England. Saith, that the cause
 of his coming into England at this time is only to see the country, and to learn to speak
 English; and for no other end.

GERRIT PAUW.

Derrick Symonds, aged 20 years or thereabouts, faith, that he is a gentleman living in
 the Hague; faith, that the cause of his coming into England at this present is, to see fashions,
 and to learn English; and for no other purpose.

DIRCK SIMONSE.

Cornelius Van Dyke, aged 20 years or thereabouts, faith, that he was born in the
 Hague; that his father is a chandler there; that the cause of his coming into England
 at present is, to see fashions, learn the English, and spend his money; and for no other
 end.

CORN. VAN DYCK.

Gerrard Joas, aged 34 years or thereabouts, faith, that he was born in West Freezland;
 faith, that the cause of his coming into England at present is, to see fashions, and learn
 English; and hath brought over with him two trunks of linen and apparel. The linen
 he intends to sell, if he can get a market for it; otherwise will carry it back again, or
 make use of it himself.

JERIT JOHHES.

Gravesend, March 7, 1654.

Mathew Hutchin, aged 36 years or thereabouts, faith, that he is a taylor by trade;
 that he was here in England about 6 months since, and did then pertain to the heere
 Youngstall, one of the ambassadors from the united provinces; faith, that he is now in the
 nature of a post employed by the said lord Youngstall, and hath letters for some of the
 lord Newport's family.

WALTER HITCHEN.

Judge advocate Whalley to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

COnceveinge it too greate a presumption in mee, formerly by letter to give you an
 account of proceedings here against the severall officers, I therefore did it to my lord
 Lambert, as knowinge hee would communicate to your highnes what should bee necessary.
 VOL. III. 3 G

Accordinge

In the possession
 of the right ho-
 nourable Philip
 lord Hardwicke,
 lord high chan-
 cellor of Great-
 Britain.

A. D. 1654.

Accordinge to your highnes expresse of the 2d instant, I have sent all the materiall papers, which I understand were found about major Bramston; and would have sent them by the messenger, but hee beinge gon theise two dayes to Glasgow, and not returned, I thought fitt to send them by the post. I have noe depositions against any of the officers, that were tryed before the court martiall, nothinge beinge proved more against them than what they confessed, which was the signeinge of the severall letters, which are *verbatim* with the inclosed depositions, and their unlawfull meetings about that letter, and disperfeing them to severall persons of severall regiments, and to meet together at Edinburgh, as in the letter is expresse, and not makeinge the same knowne to the comander in cheife here. I have had much trouble with the officers, upon very frivolous pretences not worthy mentioninge, to gett the inclosed depositions; and was forced to secure them, before they would bee sworne; and beinge secured they immediately better considered of it, and gave mee their parroll to come the next day, which accordingly they did, and were voluntarily sworne, and subscribed the inclosed, they haveinge three severall times before positively denyed it. Their depositions onely beare major generall Overton's privety to the letters, which beinge considered with the vote of the court martiall herewith alsoe sent, I conceive will be a considerable charge or article against him. I have alsoe sent the letter directed to Loveland, but could not by any meanes discover the penman thereof. It was strongly presumed by the officers, that captaine Hedworth can give an account of it. I conceive, may it please your highnes, the charge against mr. Oates, which I formerly sent to my lord Lambert, beinge well considered, will better discover the designe then any thinge otherwise that I can write. And now, may it please your highnes, I humbly begg your favourable construction of my poore indeavours in this busines, nothinge haveinge bin omitted of my duty to the uttermost of my mean abilitye; and since I have this oppertunity, give mee leave humbly to intreate two lines from your highnes for my constant stay or returne, that I may at last settle my selfe, family, and affaires for the remainder of the number of my dayes, I cheerfully submitte to what the Lord shall put into your heart therein. I am

Edinburgh, March 8, 1654.

Your highnes's

most humble and faithfull servant,

To his highnes the lord protector,
These.

HEN. WHALLEY.

Talbooth }
Canogate } Edinburgh.

At a court martiall of his highnes the lord protector, &c. and captain generall, &c. held for the head quarters in Scotland before colonel Daniel, president, and other officers present, the 16 off Feb. 1654.

Resolved, &c.

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

THAT the letters beareinge date Aberdeene 18th of December 1654, signed by capt. Henry Hedworth, lieutenant John Braman, coronet John Toomes, quarter-master William Barford, quarter-master John Gregory, quarter-master John Waltridge, mr. Samuel Oates, and lieutenant Rawson, and disperfed as directed to severall persons in severall regiments in Scotland, were letters tendinge to sedition, muteny, and devisions in the army.

Vera copia,

HEN. WHALLEY.

The examination of Daniel Davis, trooper in the late troop of major Husbands, taken upon oath the 8th of March, 1654.

Vol. xxxvi.
p. 327.

WHO faith, that about ten weeks last past he was commanded by his quarter-master Gregory, to attend at the new town of Aberdeen, at a particular house appointed, where beinge come, he found present lieutenant Braman, quarter-master Barford, quarter-master Waltridge, mr. Oates, and lieutenant Lawfon, where this deponent saw several letters sealed up lying upon the table, and to his best remembrance, to the number of about six or seven; four or five of which were delivered to this deponent, to be by him delivered as they were directed, the one of them to major Dorney, one other to captain Spilman of the lord Lambert's regiment, one other to captain Earley of col. Read's regiment at Sterlinge, one other to ensign Snow, quartered in Glasgow; telling this deponent the contents of the letters were to draw up a petition to the general about tithes and other things,

things, the like being done at London; and saith one John Green, trooper in the same troop, carried other like letters to other officers. And this deponent being in his way at Edinburgh, for the delivery of his letters, and hearing the said Green was imprisoned for carrying the letters delivered to him, this deponent burnt his letters; and farther saith not.

March 8, 1654.

HEN. WHALLEY.

DANIEL DAVIS.

Mr. Mor. Lloyd, &c. to Secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

THE inclosed is a copy of what was yesterday sent to a gentleman of integritye Vol. xxiv. and note neare Oshwestrey, and from him all night to us. Wee judged fitt in relation to the publique peace to communicate it to you, that whatever truth or uncertainty may be in it, both you and wee may be very vigilant in our respective places, and wait on God for further discovery and direction. Col. Lloyd of Aston, mr. Baber, and the other gentleman mentioned in the intelligence, went, as we heare, alonge night to Shrewsbury, to secure themselves, and that place. This wee leave with you, and remaine

Wrexham, thursday March 8, 1654.

MOR. LLOYD
DAN. LLOYD
HUGH PRICHARD
ROGER SONTLEY.

These are (least you and other freinds should lacke notice) to acquaint you, that there will be a troope or smale army of cavalleers visit col. Lloyd, mr. Baber, capt. Evans, yourselfe, and others, commanded by one Blaney, and they goe to morrow night towards Chircke-castle; it is reported there is a generall rising throughout England and Wales of that party. Ralph Kynaston hath lifted by relation 50 troopers this day at Pena-parke. They are confident, and act publicquely; a rendezvouze will be att Mues-yeledren, neare Lugey-groes, and sir Thomas Harris is said to doe the like with a greater party, within his owne parke, and to march for Shrewsbury; the which, and Chirke also, they meane to be possessed of to morrow night about 8 or 9 of the clock. Make the best use of this to all godly brethren. I beseech you, discover not the author, least I be thereby ruined.

Mr. J. Topping to Secretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

I Thought good to give an account to you, that yesterday Christopher Shadforth, Vol. xxiv. master of the Elisabeth of Newcastle, came into this harbour. The sarcher found p. 126. mr. Robert Marlay on board, who is the sonn of sir John Marlay, sometimes governor of Newcastle: being brought to me, saith, his father sent him to his mother, who lives two miles of Newcastle. He came from Antwerp the first of February, where his father is with the earle of Newcastle, who maintaines him at his table, and noe English gentleman besides. The duke of Gloucester two moneths since was at Antwarpe, and is now at the Hauge with the princes royall. Alsoe at his coming away an English marchant, one mr. South, and many others, tould him, that king Charles was landed in England, and that the lord protector had sent a new governor to Hull, but the towne would not receive him; and the king was landed there. He hath heard the jesuitts preach, but will not be a roman catholick. One he calls father Worley, a Jesuitt of the cloysters of Antwarpe, is now at London, and many more. It is easyer to find a nedle in a botle of heay, then finde them, for they chang their names. This young man is upwards of 19 yeares of age, speakes good French, and hath kist Charles Steward's hand. He hath bine educated near two yeares in Antwarpe. I caused him to be serched, but could find noe letters, only an ould peice of paper with some verses writ, and in four places begune the verse with God damne me. In his portmantle was French and Lattin bookes, and in English, Waller's poems, and the pretended booke of the late king's to his sonn, with six of Newcastle's ladye's pictures. He saith, his father sent his mother his owne picture, which is on shipp-board. I conceave he gott his letters convay'd away in tyme, for he heard they would searce him; and this is all, that I can posable gett out of him, though I used gentleness and harshness to him. Lett me know of the receipt of this, and his highness's pleasure heerein. I am, sir, your very humble servant,

Tynmouth Cattle, March 8. 1654.

JO. TOPPING.

I am

A. D. 1654. I am in much haſt. This incloſed note is the names of ſeverall ſuſpected perſons, who have accompanied 4 or 5 at a tyme together, and thoſe that ware in armes for the king. I have writ there titles, but nothing can be found by them, they are ſo ſecret. Newcaſtle men many will not believe there is any plott. Soe you may gueſſe what ſpirit they are of.

I wiſh this letter be not broke up, before it comes to your hands.

* * * * * four or five at late king's ſervice.

Dr. Newton	Jacob Blanheuſhip, capt.	George Errington, capt.
Robert Henley, merchant	Mr. Henry Hodgſon, a paſiſt	Gilbert Errington, major
Bapt. Johnſon, a commiſſary	George Barthrum, major	William Robinſon, junior
Mr. Hen. Madifon	William Thurfby, marchant	Richard Foſter, captain.
Mr. Gardner	William Robinſon ſenior	
Mr. Thomas Aubury	Martin Errington, capt.	

Col. H. Mackworth to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 121.

SINCE the receipt of your highneſſe's letter, I received from ſower ſeverall parts in this county this inſuing intelligence, viz. that there is a ſudden inſurrection intended all over England and Wales. One ſir Blaney is commander in cheife over Montgomery forces, and keepes his rendevooz this eveninge with hopes to be poſſeſſed of Cherke Caſtle this very night; and that ſir Thomas Harries (the gentleman your highneſſe mentioned) keeps rendvooz about the ſame time in his owne parke 5 miles off this place, with intention to ſurprize this towne and caſtle about 8 or 9 of the clocke this night, and likewise that one Ralph Kynaſton of this county hath privately liſted a troope of horſe; in order to the prevention hereof I ſent one this morninge to give ſir Thomas Middleton notice of the deſignes in his parts, and againſt this caſtle. For what relates to this garrifon, the troope your highneſſe ordered not being yet come, and the ſouldiers under my command beinge to ſmall a number to forme a party out of them able to deale with the conſpirators, when they make their rendevooz, I have ordered the preſent ſeizure of 20 horſe in this towne, and to mount on them ſome ſouldiers and ſome confident friends, who ſhall immediately ſeize upon the perſons of ſir Thomas Harries and Kinaſton, before their party joyne; which I hope will diſſipate the intended meetinge of this party, and as ſone as the troope from Hereford arrives, ſend in for other dangerous cavalliers, and punctually obey your highneſſe orders in every thinge, and to the utmoſt of my power and ability will not be wantinge in ſecuringe this garrifon to your highneſſe, and faithfully approve myſelfe

Shrewſbury, March the 8th,
at 2 of the clocke in the
afternoon. 1654.

Your highneſſe moſt humble
and faithfull ſervant,

A. MACKWORTH.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE;

MY uncle acquainted mee, that he received from your highneſſe commiſſions for a regiment. If your highneſſe pleaſe to give him directions for his ſpeedy compleatinge it, it would be of very great uſe for theſe parts, as the affaires of the county now ſtands, and an encouragement to him that is,

Your highneſſe moſt humble ſervant,

A. MACKWORTH.

Since the writinge of this, the quarter maſter of the troope is come hither, and aſures mee, the whole troope will be here within this howre.

J. Peck to captain John Griffith.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 120.

SIR,

WE are all here juſt a goeing uppon duty, for I doe aſſure you, wee expect an enemy this night to attempt ſomething uppon this place. They are the refuge of cavalry. You will heare more att large ſhortly. I thinke it were not amiſſe, if you kept a ſtriſt guard in your towne for theſe two or three nights, untill the ſame be over. I am in haſt

Wrexham, March 8, 1654.

Copia vera,
J. G.

Yours everlaſtingly,
J. PECK.

For his ever honored freind capt. John Griffith,
ſheriffe of Cheſter, theſe.

Mr.

Mr. Roger Sontley to col. John Jones.

HON. SIR,

YOURS came to my hand, but truly our distractions was such that I had not tyme seriously to peruse it. Our ould enemy begyns to stir afresh, I meane the caveleers, as we weare certainly informed from fir Thomas Myddleton and others, that they were 800 in a body in one place neere Llangymynech in Mountgomeryshire. We suppose it to be a general ryseinge and that upon very good grounds, many of this towne being fled to them, and many more prepareinge for it. The Lord hath sturred us up wonderfully to oppose them, and that with one consent. None dissent, which is no small joy unto us. You may suppose some discouragements we ly under in it, not knowing who wyl owne us in these things: we are upon the old account as yet, I meane as your troope, though some, who canot rayse many forces, doe a little envy it. I gott together above 50 hors yesterday in lesse then two houres tyme. We have likewise about a 100 foote together, and I hope shal encrease. Your presence with us would much joy us, or your advise in what we doe. Our present orders for this is from the justises of the peace, who are a little styred up with it. This is al the account at present I can give you: by the next more at large. I hope we shal not be slighted, but ayd will in tyme be sent us. Thus I remayne

Wrexham, March 9, 1654.

Your faythful servant,

ROGER SONTLEY.

The superscription.

*For the honorable col. John Jones bast this: leave it with
mr. Humphrey Jones at the Goat in Paternoster
Row, to be sent as above written.*

An intercepted letter of fir Thomas Middleton.

GENTLEMEN,

SINCE my last I have received certaine intelligence, that there is a party above 800 at randevouze about the new brige and the new chappell in Mongomeryshire. I conceive it fitt, that you endeavour to raise what horse and foot you can, and to draw them towards Shropshire to joyne with the forces there. I have intelligence there will be three or foure troopes of horse this day neare Salopp from Staffordshire and Herefordshire. I desire to have your resolutions herein. In the mean time, I shall be carefull to defend this place; foe in hast I rest

Chirke Castle, March 9, 1554.

Your loveing freind,

THOMAS MIDDLETON.

This is a true copy of the letter sent from
fir Thomas Middleton to Daniell Lloyd
at Wrexham.

J. GRIFFITH.

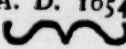
Montgom. *The deposition of Ralph Kynafton, gentleman, taken at Red-castle
ff. in the said county, upon the 9th day of March, 1654, before Thomas
Lloyd, esq; high sheriff of the said county, Hugh Price, and John
Griffith, esqrs. justices of the peace for the said county, as followeth.*

RALPH Kynafton, of Rufnant in the said county, gent. aged 28 years, or thereabouts, depofeth and faith, that about the 27th day of February last past, fir Thomas Harris, of Borrough Acton, in the county of Salop, Bart. did send a servant of his, called William Eaton, to acquaint this deponent, that there was a plot laid by a party, that would appear in armes for Charles the second, the son of the late king, against the present government; which party did intend to appear in arms, as aforesaid, at eleven of the clock at night; desiring this deponent to appear, as aforesaid, with the said party, together with all the forces he could raise; and to meet the said fir Thomas near unto his house, where the said fir Thomas would be with fourscore horse, that had engaged before the time aforesaid, for the service aforesaid, to the end that they might march with all the forces they should make to the town of Salop; hoping they might be able to possess themselves of it. And this deponent being demanded, how they did intend to possess themselves of the castle in Salop aforesaid, doth say, that the said fir Thomas told this deponent

VOL. III.

3 H

ponent

A. D. 1654.  ponent at Burrough Acton aforesaid, that they had prepared two men, that were acquainted with the said castle, that should go with two other men in the apparel of gentlewomen, and two servingmen to attend them upon the 8th day of March aforesaid, about 4 of the clock in the afternoon, to enter into the said castle, and under pretence of shewing the castle unto the pretended gentlewomen, to keep the gates open, and the draw-bridge down, until a party designed to seize upon the said castle should rush in out of certain alehouses near unto the said castle, where they were to be ready at the discharging of a pistol. And this deponent farther saith, that the said sir Thomas, at the time aforesaid, told this deponent, that in case the town of Salop should be secured for the present government, before the said time, that the said party should march away to Lancashire, Cheshire, Worcestershire, or where else they could hear the strongest party for the said Charles should be raised. And this deponent being demanded, where the said sir Thomas would furnish the said party with arms for the said service, saith, that the said sir Thomas told him at Burrough Acton aforesaid, the time aforesaid, that he had fourscore cases of pistols and holsters, which he lately had from London, which should be delivered unto the said party at the rendezvous aforesaid. This deponent being farther demanded, what other gentlemen were engaged in this plot, doth say, that the said sir Thomas did tell him at the time aforesaid, that one sir Arthur Blaney of Tregunon, in the county of Montgomery, and Richard Scriven, of Frausley, in the county of Salop, esq; was reported would come with all the forces they could procure to the rendezvous aforesaid, and that this deponent saw sir Thomas Armstrong's son at Burrough Acton aforesaid, whom he supposed to be one of the said party. And this deponent farther saith, that he doth verily believe, that the said sir Thomas, with all his party, are up in arms, and gone upon the aforesaid design; and that sir Arthur aforesaid, with all other persons of the county of Montgomery, that did intend to appear in this design, are returned to their several habitations. And farther saith, that he did hear, that the said sir Thomas had a commission from Charles Stuart, to be a colonel of a regiment of horse; and farther deposeth not.

RALPH KYNASTON.

True copy.

THOMAS LLOYD.

HUGH PRICE.

JOHN GRIFFITH.

Montgo. *Examination taken at Red-castle the 9th day of March 1654. before Hugh Price,*
ff. *Thomas Niccolls, Edward Allen, and John Griffith.*

Vol. xxiv.
p. 128.

RALPH Kynaston of Rhyfnant within the county of Montgomery, gentleman, aged 28 years or thereabouts, examined, saith, the day and place aforesaid, that upon monday the 1st of this instant March, this examine coming from Shrewsbury about three or four of the clock in the afternoon, overtook on the way two men on horseback about Knucking Heath, with whom this examine enquired what news they had. The said men said, that they had been lately at London; that it was reported at London, that there was a plot; and that the lord protector and the army would declare for the king. This examine farther saith, that on tuesday last this examine was at his own house until afternoon, and then went to Musbrook and Penny-park, and no other place that day, and was with no company that afternoon, but with his tenants; and came home unto his dwelling house at Pentrehelin that tuesday at night, and there was all night. This examine farther saith, that upon tuesday the 8th of this instant March, this examine was at his own house until near evening about 4 of the clock in the afternoon, and that there was no strangers with him at his house that day, save mr. Cuney and one stranger more. This examine went to William Smith of Vandrinio, where he continued that evening about an hour and half in company with Arthur Vaughan of Tretherwen, John Penrhin of Vandrinio, Thomas Rogers of Burgedin, and about three strangers more, one mr. Williams, one Matthias Lloyd of Milwerley, sometimes major for the king, and a younger brother of his, who had no other business but to drink together. This examine then said, that there was a talking of a plot, and rumour, that Shrewsbury should be taken; and it was then said, that Shrewsbury was careful of itself. And this examine saith, that he had no discourse with these persons no were else, to list any soldiers or men, either under himself or any other whatsoever. This examine farther saith, that upon thursday at night, when he came home to his own dwelling, John Tannatt, whom this examine met on the way, came with this examine and his own man to his own house, and this examine said, that the said John Tannatt went away from this examine's house the same night, and one Robert Vaughan came to this examine's

examine's house that thursday at night, and was with this examine all night at his house, A. D. 1654. and no other strangers were with this examine at his house that night.

A true copy,

RALPH KYNASTON.

THOMAS LLOYD.

HUGH PRICE.

EDWARD ALLEN.

Ralph Kynaston's confession.

THE design was to rise in all parts of England yesternight, and to have their rendezvous at eleven of the clock at night; and the general rendezvous for these parts was to be in sir Thomas Harris's park. He was to be colonel, and they had appointed to march to Shrewsbury, and to have a great many of their party in alehouses and inns near the castle; and the way to take the castle was thus, that six should go, two in the nature of gentlewomen with their ushers, and two serving-men, and there in their return out of the castle to give notice by the discharge of a pistol, for those that are in the inn to come suddenly out, and secure the castle; and then the horse to be in a readiness to march into the town. Sir Thomas Harris was to furnish them with 100 case of pistols, which he had from London in a readiness; but in case the plot did fail, then these forces were to march to Cheshire, and Worcestershire, and from thence to the north; which he supposeth is done.

Taken before Hugh Price, governor of Red-castle, Montgomeryshire.

March 9, 1654.

The examination of Thomas Davy, a taylor, dwelling at Strand Bridge, on friday the 9th instant. [March, 1654.]

SAITH, that he sent a deal box directed to his brother John Davy, at Dovington-house near Feverham in Kent, which box had in it a great saddle, bridle, and sumter cloth, and was sent thither by direction from my lord Tufton, who had bespoken the said saddles, and appointed it to be made up; which box was to remain at his brother's house, until the examine called for it; the examine intending to go down to Kent, and then to call for the box, and to convey it to Thanet-house. And he farther saith, that he sent a trunk, having in it a suit of arms and a case of pistols, to the same place for my lord Tufton's use, which the said lord Tufton, as the examine saith, intended to carry with him into Flanders, whither the said lord was to go, to be employed in the king of France's service. And being demanded, of whom the saddle and pistols were bought, saith, that the saddle was bought of a saddler, that lives the next door to Serjeant's-inn in Fleet-street, and the pistols of one Palmer, over-against the Fountain tavern in the Strand. And being farther demanded, what other arms he hath provided for the lord Tufton, he saith, he provided none, except a coat of mail, which was prepared for my lord's own use, and to be carried with him also to Flanders; and that, trying the same upon my lord, it was found too big for him. And being asked, who accompanied him to the boat with the said box and trunk, saith, none but one mr. Edwards, dwelling in Clerkenwell, at one Edwards's house, and another young man, whose name was mr. Coates.

Major R. Creed to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

HIS highness did command mee to get the 40 case of pistolls from sir Henry Littleton fixt and cleansed, because they was much out of order, in regarde they was throwne into the water. They cost mee 5 s. the doeing. They are delivered into the governor of Warwick castle. Sir, I have troubled severall honest men in Worcestershire to bring in intelligence to mee, who doe spend a parte of their tyme in coming to and fro to mee. I am at present out for intelligence and other things about seven pounds, and am like to expend some more dayly. It is no reason, that this should bee upon my owne partickular account: therefore I intreate so much favour from you, if you think fit to deliver a sum of money to captain Whitby, who is of his highness's regiment, 20 l. is the least in my judgment that you can deliver to him: hee will convey it to mee. I shall give you a

A. D. 1654. very true and just account of it. Sir, I hope you will pardon the presumption of him,
 that desires to approve himselfe,

Gloucester, March 9, 1654.

Sir, your humble servant,

RIC. CREED.

Pray sir bee pleased to deliver the money as
 soone as may bee, for I want it.

Major R. Creed to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

Vol. xxiv.
 P. 133.

According to your highness commandes I am marcht with the two troopes that quarter in Coventry, viz. Captain Palmer's and my owne, to this place, and doe thinke wee came very seasonably, it being the assize, where are mett great concourse of people more than is useally knowne to doe. I have secured major Robinson and major Coleburne in this place, and would intreat your highness commandes for the dispose of them. They are both notorious cavileeres, and very stout men. Robinson is a man of notable witt, but Coleburne is a weake man in comparisson to him. I can get nothing out of neither of them. I have received very true intelligence out of Worcestershire of a very great number of caveleeres, and severall of them considerable persons, who have had severall meetings at one doctor Watson his house, the teacher of the parish of Inkborrow, who a desperate enemy. The persons, who doe useally meet with this doctor, are sir John Winter, major Savidge, captain Laurance, one mr. Throckmorton, major Bushell, captain Bushell, mr. Fortiskue, captain Hanberry, and captain Beare. I have imployed three honest countereymen in those parts, to have a diligent inspection into all there meetings. They doe come to mee from tyme to tyme, and bring mee the truest intelligence that I can gett. It doth playnly appeare, that they have had a designe to rise in those parts, and doe still indevor an accomplishment of it, as doth appeare by the inclosed papers. There is my lord Windsor, and his brother, and severall others, it is thought, is guilty. The things do not visibly appeare, so as that the waye to proceed against them is playne as may be desired; yet they have dayly and weekly convention together, which doth playnly appeare that they intend evell to the peace of these nations. I have this to present unto your highness, that one, who writes himselfe Walter Gosteloe, did sent almost 40 bookes to one mr. Humphereys, a bookseller in Warwick, in my judgment of a very dangerous consequence to your highness and these nations, and doth (as you may see cleerly) positively say, that he hath your highness lycence for what hee doth; which I doe beleive is a horrible lye. The sayd bookseller liveing in Warwick, to whom they was sent, did come to mee, and discover the matter, but sayd, hee was very loath to part with the books. I told him, that if hee would not by fare meanes, I would force them from him, and punish him alfoe, which I thinke would have bin the least of his desert, if hee had either concealed or sould them. Hee is affrayd, that the man will come for money for them, and feares, that he must paye him for the bookes. They come to the sum of 40 or 50 l. hee desired mee to save him harmlesse. I told him, I would, and paye him very well, if hee would let me have a sight of the man that sent him the books, really beleiving, that hee appeares not so publique as his booke demonstrates. I have sent all the bookes to captain Whitby, who will present them to your highness, or to any, whom you shall appoint. In the interim I have sent here inclosed a printed paper that goes along with the bookes, and a letter from Gosteloe to the bookseller of Warwick. I have yet further to present unto your highness, that about three weeks since there did march thorow Warwick about the dead tyme of the night severall men armed with sword and pistolls, and in the day tyme likewise, who was judged to be rouges; haveing notice of the same I sent for 20 horse to guard in Warwick. Colonell Hauksworth and another did give mee this intelligence, but I did not rest satisfied with that, but searcht unto the rise of it, and spake with two men, one of which told me the same; the other tells mee, that hee saw footmen goe thorow the towne, lusty proper men, another night; and it is generally so sayd by many, who, as they lye in their beds, heare them goe along the towne; and that they march a land's length distance each from the other, when in the towne, and when out they ride immediately up together. It is thought they went towards the North, because they went out at that end of the towne. It is sayd, they have marched in this manner severall tymes; and yesterday, as I was marching to this place, one over took mee, and told mee of a great meeting neere Warwick, pretending a football match, whereunto many did ride and goe all that night, and many cavileeres were ingaged in the same. Whereupon I was forc't to send off a party of horse to disperse them, and accordingly they did. There was a very great number theire, and it is judged, that they indevor by these things

to gett to randevouz. If I may speake playnly my judgment (setting selfe aside) I doe A. D. 1654.
 judge, that Coventry or Warwick cannot be without a troop of horse, as the state of things are; and there is noe troop in England can bee more serviceable then myne, they being that cunteryemen, and knowing it and all persons of quallity in it. Therefore I humbly propose this to your highnesse, if it shall seeme meet to your wisdom, that one of the troopes, which quarters in Heriford, may come hither to captaine Palmer's, and that myne be forthwith sent to Coventry or Warwick. I sent severall tymes to Brackley race, and uppon the day they was to run, but they removed there horses, and did not. I intreate your commands touching sir James Hayles and mr. Steven Hayles his sonn, who are both at Snitfield 4 miles from Warwick, that are mentioned in Gosteloe's letter to the booke-feller in Warwick. I intend to draw some more horse to Worcester at the great fare which will bee their about 2 or 3 weekes hence. It lasteth ten dayes, but useally their doth come a great number (but not of the best) of men, which will be a formidable way for them to randevouze, if not prevented, if they have any intention foe to doe. I delivered in the 40 case of pistolls, that came from sir Henry Littleton's, to colonell Hawkesworth. I could not in conscience trouble the poor men in Worcestershire and elsewhere, who brought mee intelligence, but that I must content them; and accordingly I did, and have employed them still, so that I must bee dayly expending money. I have just now heard of some dangerous words, that major Roberts of Chelsum spake, and have sent for witness touching the matter. I thinke Warwick castle is a very convenient place to send any prisoners to, that are hereabouts. I desire an order from your highness to that purpose, that any, which are taken, which your highness shall not thinke fitt to give liberty to, may bee secured there. None will be received in without your highness's order. I know not what to doe with that nest of cavileers in Worcestershire, more then to take bond for their peaceable liveing. There was no troope in Litchfeild. I doe humbly intreate your highness's commandes to be sent with all speed by my souldier, who attends your highness for the same. I have no more at present, but intreate your highness to pardon my tediousness at this tyme, and to beleive, that I am,

Gloc. March 9, 1654.

My lord,

your highness's faythfull

and humble servant,

RIC. CREED.

Petition relating to the isle of Jersey.

IT is humbly desired your highness will be pleased to appoint some persons to take a Vol. xxiv.
 survey of the castle of Jersey, and to cause such reparations and additions of building to P. 218.
 be made, as they shall judge requisite for the accommodation of the garrison; and to that end may be impowered to issue out monies, either out of the receipts of that island, or contingencies, as your highness shall think fittest.

That your highness will order some beds and coverlids for the use of the said garrison.

That some course may be taken, that a store of provision be laid in the said castle, to the end they may be provided against any sudden siege or danger.

That a supply be made of carriages and other materials for great guns.

That your highness would be pleased to authorize some persons to call your receivers Done already.
 there to an account, and to take care of speedily bringing in what arrears are due to the receipt.

" His highness doth direct, that this paper be referred to general Desbrowe, col. Jones, col. Fiennes, mr. Strickland, my lord Lisle, sir Charles Wolsley, or any two of them, who are to take consideration of the particulars contained in them, and report with what speed may be what is fit for his highness to be done therein.

JO. THURLOE.

Friday, the 9th of March, 1654.

ACcording to your highness's directions signified by mr. secretary Thurloe, we have Vol. xxiv.
 taken consideration of the paper hereunto annexed, containing severall desires in P. 217.
 reference to Jersey; and do humbly offer it to your highness, as our opinion, that your highness will be pleased to refer the particulars in the said paper to the commissioners, which your highness shall authorize to go to Jersey, for making compositions with the islanders, to take consideration of the desires of the said paper, and to do therein what they shall find necessary and requisite for the safety of the island and the garrison there.

NATH. FIENNES.

WAL. STRICKLAND.

A letter

A letter from Wrexham to col. John Jones.

DEARE AND HONOURED,

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
p. 137.

WHAT you mention of procuring the removeall of H. C. to some other guarrison is not amisse, I thinke, if procureable, that hee might enjoy the comforts of his children and friends, who otherwise must travaile further to see him, where he is. Wee in these parts would bee children of peace and love, and through mercy in part are so; yet for our own defence, were forced yesterday to take armes against the old cavillier upon certaine intelligence of an insurrection of Harris in Shropshire, and Kinaaston by the new bridge above Clan y Mynych, whence they were to enter Chirke, as one of their friends hints in the inclosed, which since is confirmed; but the whole we have not, nor do I thinke it is as big as some thinke, nor as small as others imagine. However our faire (Hanner y Gwanwyn) here is now with us, and that party are providing horses, and divers are gone out of towne to them; and our friends have beene up yesternight horse and foot, after we had sent notice to Chirk, Chester, and Denbeigh, to looke to themselves. If this swelling breake and not draw in, you will heare more of a scabby itching tumor. All forts seeme carefull to preserve the comon peace. The presbiterians and independents make but one party in this. Just now newes comes, that they grow numerous, but two colonells that were to head them besides Harris make some promise them a scattering of them. This night these people here go on to the guard againe, having this day found that partys of strangers not farr off from the towne yesternight assembled. We are for peace, but if they begin, wee thinke ourselves called to defend our lives, if God sees good. Wee thought to send to London the whole, to avoyd jealousyes, but it's thought needles. Wee are well knownen, and the insurrection is not in a corner. I heare one or more there killed already. This may prove a taile of a smoaking firebrand. If the Lord keepe us within from the army within our owne hearts, the outward can do no hurt at all.

Wrexham, March 9, 1654.

The supercription,

*To coll. John Jones, present. These leave
at the Goat in Paternoster-Row, neere
Paul's, to be hastened.*

Avaugour to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Stockholm, March 20, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 344.

THE news which yours of the 12th of February brought me of your negotiation were too much desired here, not to be received with much joye. All this court would partake with me, and the king of Sweden himself, after he had understood the advantages, which may accrue to France by this accommodation, did not forget to give to your function all the honour and glory, which is to be deserved in an occasion of that importance. I shewed him my letters, which he read with much satisfaction, thereby declaring the affection, which he bears to our crown.

We are waiting here till the waters be unfrozen, to transport the troops to such places, into which they are designed. The ambassador of Poland is still waiting for new letters of credence, before he can be admitted to audience. He hath been here almost these three months to no purpose.

Mr. Ralph Kynaaston to John Kynaaston, esq;

COUSIN KYNASTON,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 139.

BEING my ill hap to meet with sir Thomas Harris, he gave me some relation of a plot he had, and would fain engage me in it; but upon consideration I sent him word, I would have nothing to do with it; and upon friday morning I went to Red Castle, to acquaint the governor and the rest of them what I knew of it; whereupon they do keep me prisoner. Now my desire is to you, to see whether I may have my enlargement upon bail,

bail, considering my wife is not well at present. Not else, but wishing you all health and happiness, I rest

A. D. 1654.

Red Castle, March 10, 1654.

Your assured loving cousin,

RALPH KYNASTON.

For his much honoured cousin John Kynaston,
esq; at Brim, these.

W. Crowne to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Accordinge to my duty, I shall give your highnes this account since my last: the party wee sent out to sir Thomas Harris, founde him in his howse with some fixe or seaven more, and in the steble neere 20 horse sadelled, and 13 paire of pistolls, charged and primed some of them; a litle barrell of powder, and a compleate suite of armes, lyinge together in his barne, under a litle straw, which our men founde, by a bridell reaine lyinge on it, partly hidd, and partly unhidd; and in his studdy, bulletts newly made, and the mould. And as our party marched through the villadge neere his howse, a gentlewoman lookinge out a window said, Oh Lord! wee are undone; whoe some of our men heard one say was his sister. The cheife with him is one that goeth by the name of mr. White, a tall younge gent. 20 or 22 yeres ould, a great head of heare, an ovell face, dark eyebrowes, whoe I had a thought once was the duke of Yorke, because 'tis reported to me, hee is come lately into these parts, and this gent. came from London but sabath day at night last, into a privett malignant alehowse in our subburbs, being brought thether by one Mungummery, a desperatt cavilere here, that went, as I believe, to meet him at Dantry the last weeke, to which place, the gent. say, hee came of his owne horse, and then sent him back by his man to London, and there fell into Mungomery's company by chance, beinge a stranger to him before; and the munday after hee came hether, confesseth Mungomery carried him to a villadge 3 miles of, where sir William Owen's house is, to an alehouse, where sir Thomas Harris sent him word he would meet him, and then tooke him home. And sir Thomas Harris saith the same, but denys any knowledge of a plott, but that White was come to be a servant to one of his sisters, who say hee hath noe kindred or freind in London, now they are out of town, except some Dutch marchants, pretendinge hee is a Dutchman borne in Nyminghame in Hollande, and lived at the Hague sometymes, and here and in Ireland sometymes. I tryed him to give him leave to write to any kindred in London, and I would sende it, and helpe to make way to your highnes; but hee refused, saieing, hee hoped he should not bee here above 2 or 3 days, and liked his quarters well. The reason I have to thinke 'tis not the duke is, for that hee would not leave a certainty, to hazard his life, without first haveing a boddy in the felde able to defende him. 2dly, he saith, he hath bein in London a good while, and kepte one sir Francis Mackworth company often, whoe is 5 weeks since gonn over in Holland, as hee saith, to marry, and see truth, and said lyeke-wise, hee hath often dranke his morning's draught, at a litle boarded howse by the Tilt Yard, called Jacob's Well, with sir Francis Morris; soe as I believe the Duke durst not be soe long in London. I heare my lord Wilmott is come down lately alsoe; and wee have had 2 gent. of quallity this weeke guided up and downe the countrey; the one by the said Mungomery, the other by one Salter, latly gone out of this garrison from his master, whoe was at Worcester last. The one gent. thurday last was upon a heath 12 miles of, comeing to this towne. A frende of myne fell into his company, a cuntry fellow, and there, after they had ridd a mile, the servinge man inquired what newse here, and how farre to this towne; tould him, hee that went before was your highnes sonn goinge for Ireland privetly, having a troop of horse a litle distance of; but would not march with it; and said, I could wish my sword in his harte, for it will never be better, untill wee have a kinge. But my frende replyinge noethinge, hee held his tongue afterward; soe as, my lord, hear is great danger of this place, and your highnes troope did come in but halfe the last thurday in the afternoone, and the other partie is not come from Darby. Wee beinge soe weake, I sent out for some honest men to com into me with ther horse, soe that wee are in all horse with the 20 wee tooke at sir Tho. 50, which were sent . . . in parties out constantly. I doe imploy foote scouts, of my whoe doe bringe me what I know, but I mayntayne my friends and scouts upon my owne purse, which will not hould out long; and I humbly conceive there is a great fear of infurrections; our and wee must prepare to defend the people here and ourselves; and I dare not raise a man, untill your highnes gives me order. I desire but 2 dayes time to raise a troope of horse,

or

Vol. xxxvi. p.
342.

A. D. 1654. or a good partie of foote, foe I knew how to pay them; and 'tis the desire of all the good people, that those whoe cause our troubles and charges might bare the burthen now. Here is not one gentleman come in yet, and trewly, my lord, but 2 that was frighted in thurday night, and are since gon home; but I have a second sorte of men, that will not faile. I humbly crave your pardon for beinge foe tedious. If they come, I will sell my life at as deare a rate as I cane; and, my lord, I ame

Salop, March 10, 1654.

Your highnes most humble servant

as long as I live,

WILLIAM CROWNE.

Mr. H. Beale to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 140.

THIS morninge by eight of the clock I received my lord's order; in obedience to which wee shall march with all possible speed, and goe as privately as may be about our busynes with a vigelent respect to secure ourselves in our quarters, and shall very shortly give you an accompt of our busynes, and where we are. Thus signifying unto you that I am,

Gilford, March 10,
1654.

Sir, your humble servant,

HENRY BEALE.

The information of Edward Trumbel of Morpeth taken the 10th day of March 1654, before, &c.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 211.

WHO faith, that on thurday morning last he received two letters from major Thomas Carnaby, one of them to himself, and another to Thomas Cowld, wherein this informant was invited to a wedding and head-washing at Duddo; and goinge thither in the evening, he found men there with every of them pistolls about them, to the number of seventy or thereabouts; and that the report was among them, that that party would enter upon Sandgate that night, and that another party of three troops under the command of one Delavall was to come in at Westgate, and another party under the command of Willoughby or Cholmley to come in Gateside to take Newcastle; and staying there from eight of the clock till eleven, then came major Thomas Carnaby with one Pattison, major Hebburne's man, with others from Newcastle, having a white led horse there; and consulting with some of the rest about a horse, they then marched away Westward. And further this informant faith, that Edward Bell of Duddo told this informant, that he was to be in a plott about twenty days ago; and also faith, that there was one called a capitaine, which brought fifty horse with blew capps with him, which he thinks to be Gawen Snawden.

This informant further faith, that there was one mr. Widdrington of Ritton, and Michael Windegaites, and William Aldcorne at this rendezvous.

CH. HOWARD.

Capt. J. Griffith to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 141.

THE designe which hath been so long a haching is now put in execution (by our old implacable enemyes the cavileers) in North Wales, wheare there are severall parties of horse and foote already in armes, as you may perceave more at large by the inclosed, which are all true coppyes of intelligence sent us upon or since the 8th instant; since which tyme the honest party in this cytty have beene upon their guard, especially in the night tyme, the first guard being commanded by myselfe, as one of the sherriffes of the cytty; and other well affected persons, formerly officers off the army, undertake to goe on with the same duty, untill further directions be sent for the putting off us into a posture off defence. Wee having at present the countenance and assistance of mr. mayor as to his interest in the cytty, as also from lieutenant Andrewes, the officer at present commanding the castle, who herein, as in his former deportment since his coming hither, hath aproved himselfe very faithfull and diligent. I shall not further mention the particulars of their

their designe or their management, other then what you may perceive by the enclosed; ^{A. D. 1654.} all which, I assure you, are true coppies off the best intelligence I could obtaine, notice whereof I have already sent unto colonel Henry Brooke, colonel Crockston, colonel Duckinfield, lieutenant colonel John Brooke, and some others, that I know to be faithfull and persons of interest; and shall humbly make it my request, that such persons may speedily be authorized in all these adjacent partes for the sudden cheque of those wicked brood; for although some of those, as sir Thomas Middleton, sir George Booth, &c. in some things possibly were unsatisfyed, yet against the cavilleers interest you may as safely trust them as ever; and it will not bee convenient to sleight persons of eminency and interest in their country, being assured of their fidelitty. And for this cytty I shall humbly recommend captaine William Wright for the command of our foote, beeing a person in every respect deserving of such a trust; and with whom no other citizen may pretend equality in any respect. Heere are also captain Whittworth and captain Ridge faithfull and ready in the service. And now give me leave one word by way of prevention, as to my selfe, least any person thinck mee worthy a better command then I am. I must confesse my ignorance, and every way my incapacity as to foote service, my whole tyme in all the late wars being spent in horse service, till after Worcester fight. I am just now informed by the lieutenant of the castle, that hee hath received certaine intelligence from Wrexham, that there came in thither last night, upon pretence of coming to the faire there, many known cavilleers to the number of 4 or 500 mounted. Excuse my haste and confused account, for my thoughts and endeavours are more busied to prevent their designe now then to give you notice of it; wherein you may assure yourselfe of the dilligence, although weake endeavours of,

Chester, March 10, 1654.

Sir, your most humble servant,

JO. GRIFFITH.

General Monck to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

I Have sent your highness heere inclosed a letter directed to colonel Overton, which was found in a trunke of his at Edinburgh; and (I thinke) may bee of some concernment. The discovery, where the trunke was, was by this meanes. There was a letter directed to mr. Bilton, wherein two keyes were sent inclosed to bee delivered to the chirurgion of colonel Overton's regiment; and mr. Bilton being gon for London, the letter came to his wife, who very honestly brought it me, being very much troubled, that any letter should come to her husband from any, who was in the late plott. On which I ordered the judge advocat to searche the trunke, who did soe, and brought me that letter. I alsoe present to your highness heere inclosed another letter, which came from one of my chief intelligencers, by which your highness may perceive, that the Scots king has endeavoured to putt this cuntry in a flame againe. And I am confident, if your highness doe but weighe the letters well both of them, you will finde colonell Overton had a designe to promote the Scots king's busines. I shall bee very carefull to inquire after this James Scot, who is mentioned in the letter, that was found in colonel Overton's trunke, and to secure him. I likewise send your highness heerewith a letter, which was inclosed to me from colonel Cooper. I shall humbly beseeche your highness, if you soe thinke fit, that adjutant general Smith (who is a very honest mann) may (by your highness's favour) have the troope late major Husband's bestowed upon him; for I knowe him to bee an honest trusty man, faithfull to your highness, and a good officer. I must humbly desire your highness to bee carefull of sending moneys to us; for the soldiers begin to grumble for want of it; and if it come not speedily, wee must bee upon free quarter; but indeede the cuntry will not bee able to bear the burden of free quarter. I humbly take leave, and remaine

Dalkeith, March 10,
1654.

Your highness's

most humble and most faithfull servant,

GEORGE MONCK.

Judge advocate Whalley to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

Hearing that the inclosed printed letters were come to the hands of one James Wallace, who keeps a change house or taverne in Edenburg, where major generall Overton did constantly lodge, when he was in Edinburg. I examined Wallace strictly concerning the same; from whom they were sent, and what number, and where they were; and I could not discover any more then three, that came to his hands, whereof the inclosed is one; ^{In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.}

VOL. III.

3 K

A. D. 1654. and the other two delivered to officers of the army, of whom I shall take a further account; and they were sent in the inclosed paper, but from whom Wallace will not be knowne. I communicated the same to the generall, whoe ordered me to acquainte your highnes therewith.

Trulie, may it please your highnes, want of money makes the foldiers begin to mutter; and one is to be brought to his tryall for mutenous words. I thought it my dutie to acquainte your highnes therewith. I am,

Edenburgh, March 10,
1654.

Your highnes humble
and faithfull servant,
HEN. WHALLEY.

Mr. George Gleane to Jenkin Lloyd. esq;

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 146.

I Having had intelligence from good christian friends this day of a riseing in Wales, I thought myselfe bound to acquaint you therewith, by reason I feare it is more then a report; for wee are informed, that there is two or three parties, one which disturbed Wrixham faire, and gave the people there a frightfull an alarame, which rought to the citty of Chester; another partie or two is sayd to be neare Cherke castle, and in the borders of Shropshire. These things much trouble, sadden, and afright all the good people hereabouts, but wee hope his highnesse the lord protector hath notis of it, if it be truth (which we much feare) and will with all speed use the meanes to prevent there riseing. The intelligence to us is, that they are cavilleares, and declare for Charles Steward. I with many others intreate you to let mee receive 2 lines from you, what you heare of this busenesse, by the next post. This adds to our feares. The generall report is, that the cavilleares are beter horsed and armed in these parts then ever they were. Thus with my reall respects to you, I ever remeane

Yours in the Lord

Cheshire, Namptwich,
March 10, 1654.

to the utmost of my power,

GEO. GLEANE.

I beseech you lett me receive 2 lines from you in answer to this.

SIR,

THERE came to mee just now a very honest godly man, and sayth he fought with one of there scouts betwixt Oswestry and Welch Poole, he bidding him stand, they were for Charles the second, or king Charles. Most honest men flee from those parts, soe that something is amisse, and wee are all at a stand heare, and know not what to doe.

The superscription,

*For my much honoured Jenkin Loide, esq; at his
lodgings in Whitehall, Westminster, these.*

Col. Mackworth to col. Jones.

HONOURED SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 149.

HAVING no other friend to whom I may make applications of this nature, and havinge received very high obligations from you, and encouragement to transmitt all businesse of consequence through your hands to his highnesse, I have made bold to begg your delivery of this inclosed, conteyninge my endeavours in preventinge a dangerous designe against this garrison, and how farr I have acted therin. I have many persons prisoners, that are apparently guilty. Many gentlemen of parts and interest in the countrey, that I can lay nothing to their charge, but that they have formerly served the kinge, I have likewise secured. Here is only seventy foote and one troope of horse in this garrison, too few a number to keepe it, and secure the prisoners. All my souldiers and myselfe have beene this three whole nights and days upon constant duty. I begge that you will acquaint his highnesse therewith, and likewise that you will obtayne his directions what I shall doe with the prisoners, not having a sufficient guard too undertake their safe keepinge. Sir, I pray give me the favour by the next post of your receipt of this letter, from

Shrewsbury, March 10, 1654.

Your most obliged humble servant,

H. MACKWORTH.

The superscription,

For the honorable col. Jones, a member of his highnes councill.

The

The examination of William Griffiths of Llauvullin in the county of Montgomery, taken the 10th day of March, 1654, before Humphrey Mackworth, esq; governor of Shrewsbury.

WHO saith, that he came upon friday last from Llauvullin aforesaid, and upon A. D. 1654: thursday before he met one mr. Edwards, who bid him take heed of himself; for that there was soldiers raised by sir Thomas Harris and one mr. Ralph Kynaston; and as this examine came from Llauvullin, to a place call'd Llanamuny, he making enquiry after news, was informed by one John Long, that sir Thomas Harris, upon thursday morning last was at Llanamuny, and that upon that night afterwards there was a rendezvous of soldiers there, of about the number of 40 or 50 horse, that met there.

WILLIAM GRIFFITHS.

This examine saith, that the said Long told him, that at the rendezvous there were present mr. Tannatt of Abbertanat, and mr. Vaughan's sons of Kederwell, and one Thomas Humphreys.

Col. Copleston to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

I AM more than abundantly thankfull, that you are pleased to take notice of my weake endeavours to serve your highnesse; and though others may doe more, and make greater ostentation, yett I will heartely contribute as much faithfullnesse, diligence, and integritie towards the preservation of the publique peace, and that good interest your lordshipp is soe zealous for, as any one whatsoever. How happy may these nations be? And what hath that bloody and restless generation to complaine off? Would they have dealt soe with us? Certainly two years value would not have satisfied. Noe, I am most confidently assured, they did and still doe intend nothinge lesse than the very utmost of ruine and crueltie. What preposterous requitalls they make for the great kindnesse shewed them? And ah! that which gives my heart, that there should now appeare so much backwardnesse to oppose them amongst those, that formerly were soe forward. The Lord long preserve your highnesse over us. Certainly should wee loose you, I tremble to thinke how sad it will be with all honest men.

I have compleated my regiment, and drawne 4 companies into this cittie, it being the center of the county. The other companies lye in other townes. I have beene very curious in the choice of officers, and I hope I may without vanity say, your highnesse shall find (if there be an occasion) that they are able, and such as you may most confidently trust. I have and shall to the utmost of my power take care, that I may be as little chargeable as possibly to your highnesse, or griveous to the county. I cannot but acknowlege the great respect and ready assistance I receive from captain Croke by your lordshipp's commands. I have caused a meeting of as many of the honest partie as I could, to advise, who are most necessary to be secured. I have taken upp some, and sent for the rest. I humbly begg your highnesse pardon for these rude blotts and impertencies, which come from him, that will never be other than

Your highnesse

Exon, March 10, 1654.

most faithfull and humble servant

JO. COPLESTON.

Mr. Henry Beale to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

ACCORDINGE to your order, which I received at Guilford, I came to this place by springe of the day this morninge, with my colonell's troope and my owne, and uppon our strickt search in the towne, wee have apprehended col. John Morley and sir George Egglestbye. Sir Robert Byron went from hence to London on munday last, and from thence he was to goe to the assizes att Nottingham, aboute a suite dependinge at lawe. His lodgings in London is at the lord Byron's house in White-fryers. The mayor of this place, and some others, I finde to be very free to give us intelligence. Wee have searched severall suspicious houses in this towne, butt cannot finde any armes or papers considerable.

This

A. D. 1654. This inclosed letter wee found att fir George Egglestbye's house. I have apprehended one captain Alexander, which I found in fir Robert Byron's house, who hath formerly beene a cavilleer, and can give noe good accompt of his beinge their. I shall send him to Portchmouth with the rest. Att one of the clock this day I received your highnes further order, and shall after this daye's refreshment march to Chichester, and shall be very carefull to apprehend those persons mentioned therein; and shall be mooveinge towards Portsmouth, accordinge to our best intellygence, if I finde that I may leave Chichester with safetie. Wee shall be very carefull to keepe considerable guards for our securitie, and to send forth parties, as need shall require. I am inquisitive after col. Sexby, but cannot yett heare of him. Thus humbly subscribinge myselfe to be

Chichester, March the 11th,
at 4 in the afternoon,
1654.

Your highnes

most faithfull and humble servant,

HENRY BEALE.

Instructions unto col. Philip Jones, one of our council, upon his repair unto Shrewsbury.

Vol. xxxiv.
p. 153.
In the hand
writing of se-
cretary Thur-
loe.

Whereas we have received severall letters and advices this morning, that the cavalier party, who have long prepared for a general insurrection through England, were ready to put it in execution upon thursday night last, and some of them did in order thereunto meet together near Shrewsbury, for the surprisal of that garrison, and others of them in North Wales; you are forthwith to repair down to Shrewsbury, and there further inform yourself of the designs aforesaid, by speaking with the governor, and col. Crowne, and such others as you shall think fit; and to examine the persons, who have been apprehended upon this business, and all others you shall judge necessary for your better information of the premises. And you are hereby authorized and required to send for any persons whatsoever, which you shall think fit; and likewise to cause to be apprehended all such, as you shall find to have a hand in this design, or are otherwise to be suspected to be dangerous to the peace of the nation. And for that purpose to require the commanders and officers of any of the forces of horse and foot to observe your orders and directions therein. And you have also power to give any orders to any of the forces in your way thither, as you shall find necessary for your own security.

You shall, as you have opportunity, acquaint the gentlemen of the country with what information you shall gain, and the danger that the cavalier party would put the nation into; and to use your best endeavour to put the country in the best posture of safety you can; for which purpose some commissions are herewith delivered unto you for the raising of horse and foot, which you have power to deliver or not, as you shall find it for the good of the service.

You shall endeavour to correspond with col. Berry and col. Hacker concerning the insurrection intended, and in part executed in Nottinghamshire; giving them such knowledge of affairs with you, as you shall find they may be serviceable in; and we have required them to communicate the like to you; and you are also to hold correspondence with colonel Lilburne, and col. Bright high sheriff of Yorkshire. Given at Whitehall this 11th of March, 1654.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to Brienne.

March 22, 1655. [N. S.].

Vol. xxiv.
p. 168.

THE next day of the conference, which I had with my commissioners on thursday last, I received your lordship's letter of the 4th of this month; the contents whereof were no other than what I had declared in the conference to my commissioners, who only replied with severall protestations of the real intentions of the lord protector to conclude the peace; but have not been able to draw any satisfactory answer from them since, upon what I then insisted, and still do, to execute the orders of his majesty. They will needs persuade me here, that the cessation of all acts of hostility will suffice; and that I ought to be satisfied with this answer, and the protestation of his highness; which not being conformable to my instructions, I shall suddenly put an end to my long negotiation, unless some sudden accident happen, which I cannot yet foresee; and without expecting new orders I am resolved to do all that I can to hasten my departure, or else conclude. I make no doubt but your lordship doth hear by other letters the publick report, that are here of new commotions, that

are like to be in this country. Some do affirm, that they are already up in arms towards the northern provinces; but some that are come thence lately do affirm the contrary. So that these reports are not well grounded, the people being very quiet in all parts. Strict search is said to have been made after the king of Great Britain and the marquis of Ormond in and about this city, who are said to be landed in England.

Bordeaux to cardinal Mazarin.

March $\frac{22}{23}$, 1654.

MY LORD,

I Have received the letter of your eminence of the 13th of this month, that hath confirmed me in what I declared to my commissioners in my last conference, that the protector must not think of any treaty, if he would not oblige himself not to assist the enemies and rebels of his majesty; and not receiving from them any satisfaction, I have demanded audience to take my leave. I will continue to pursue it, if so be they do not resolve to put in writing the verbal protestations, which my commissioners made unto me. They did not forget any expression, which might induce me to confide in what the lord protector would say unto me of it, if I would receive them; but although I am persuaded, that he is of that opinion, yet because his resolutions do govern themselves according to his interests, and do also change often enough to have insisted upon an assurance in writing, or else that he would be likewise contented to take the word of his majesty in lieu of the secret article; this overture was received no better than the relative clause in the ancient treaties, which they found worse than a formal expression of assisting the enemies and rebels. All reason will have this to be preferred before a rupture; yet however the lords of the council themselves do publish the treaty to be broke off; and that general Blake hath orders to return to guard the narrow seas. Want of provisions will also oblige him shortly to quit the Streights. They are equipping of ships here to send to general Penn, who is said to be arrived at Barbados. They threaten here Portugal for not having done according to the treaty, the ratification whereof is come out with some small alteration. I cannot yet assure your eminence of any thing concerning the levies; colonel Cooke doth still promise to perform as soon as these jealousies are once over.

Monday, March 12, 1654.

At a meeting of the commissioners for the militia of the city of London.

THE commissioners finding, that one thousand pounds will be needful at present to provide trophies for the three regiments and other incident charges; also that it will be fit to have one hundred barrels of gunpowder, with match and bullet proportionable, for the present use of the regiments; and not seeing any other way of raising the same, do appoint mr. alderman Atkin, sir Thomas Vyner, knight and alderman, mr. alderman Dethicke, mr. alderman Ireton, mr. sheriff Sleigh, mr. sheriff Allen, mr. Riccard, col. Sheppard, col. Langham, mr. Noell, and capt. Storey, or any seven of them this afternoon to attend his highness the lord protector with this intimation; and humbly pray, that his highness would please to direct the said money and ammunition to be supplied from such treasury and stores, as to his highness shall seem good; and, if his highness please, that the same may be in part of payment of the money and ammunition formerly lent by the city for the service of the commonwealth in their military affairs. They are also to move his highness, that eight or ten of the small field pieces of the ordnance lately lent by the city upon the letter of his highness's council now remaining in the Tower may be ready upon carriages, there to be delivered to the commissioners, when occasion shall be to use the same in his highness's service.

WILLIAM AVERY, clerk.

The protector's instructions to general Disbrowe.

WHEREAS there is an insurrection in the west by the cavaliers, who have armed themselves, and seized upon the judges of assize at Salisbury, and proceed on to commit other violences and outrages upon the people; you are therefore to repair with your regiment into the west, and to take into your charge and conduct the troops of col.

Vol. xxiv.
P. 175.
In the hand
writing of se-
cretary Thur-
Berry, loc.

A. D. 1654. Berry, now in the west, the two troops of col. Twisleton's, whom we have ordered from Chichester to join with you, and also all other forces both horse and foot in the western countries. And you shall use your best endeavours to prosecute the said cavaliers in whatever parts of the nation they shall go; and to suppress them; and also to put the said counties into the best posture of defence you can: for which purpose commissions are herewith delivered unto you; and all commanders and officers of the said forces are hereby required to observe such orders, as you shall give them, and to obey your commands, according to the discipline of war. And all justices of the peace, mayors, bailiffs, and all other officers and ministers, are required to be aiding and assisting to you; and are hereby required to fill up every troop in your regiment to a hundred in each troop; and you shall give the same orders to all other the troops aforesaid; and you are also to seize and secure all persons, which you shall judge dangerous to the peace of the nation, and to search their houses for arms, and to seize their horses for the use of the state. Given at Whitehall the 12th of March, 1654.

To our right trusty and right well beloved
counsellor general Desbrowe, major general
of the west.

*The protector to * * * **

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 176.
In the hand writing
of secretary
Thurloe.

I WRIT unto you the last night by an express, and inclosed in my letter an information received of a rendezvous, which the cavaliers had at Rugford in Nottinghamshire upon thursday night last. We have since heard, that there were endeavours of rising in other places at the same time, as you may see by the inclosed. We do not doubt, but you have prosecuted with effect the directions you have already received: however we have thought it necessary to send the party himself, who gave the information, and was amongst them at Rugford, who knows the parties mentioned in the information, and likewise their dwellings. It will be of great use unto us, that this business be followed home, and examined to the bottom; for which purpose I desire you to go upon the place, and examine the people of the inn, and other persons, who may probably give you information therein; and as you find or suspect any to be of their party, forthwith to seize them, their arms, and horses. There is no question to be made, but sir Roger Cowper is in it, and so sir George Saville. I hope you have secured their persons and horses. If you shall understand that any of these people are gone into other countries, give notice thereof to the forces, who are next unto them; and I would have you correspond with col. Jones, whom I have sent to Shrewsbury to examine things there; and also with col. Lilburne, and the high-sheriff of Yorkshire; and let them know how you find things. I desire you to use all diligence and care in the prosecution of these things. It will not be difficult to find out most of the persons, who were at the aforesaid rendezvous. I rest

Your loving friend.

Whitehall, March 12, 1654.

Northum.

Information of Edmund Turner.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 177.

THE information of Edmund Turner of Morpeth in the said county, taken at Morpeth the 12th day of March in the year of our Lord 1654, who upon his oath saith, that presently after the apprehending of suspected persons for the late plot, this informant was told by one Edward Bell the elder of Duddon in the said county, that there would be a plot throughout England, to surprize the troops in their quarters; and asked this informant, if he would be one in that plot, who utterly denied the same; but afterwards the said Bell sent to this informant, to tell him, that his mother was not well; and to come to her his mother upon thursday at night, being the 8th day of this instant march; and to call at Duddon as he went, to speak with him; who when this informant came, the said Edward Bell told him, that the party, that was then at Duddon, being about threescore and ten horsemen, armed with swords and pistols, were to go to Newcastle, where one Delavall was to meet them with three troops of horse out of the west of this country; and also they were to meet with forces coming out of Bishoprick at Newcastle, which should have fallen into the town by Gateside; and that the party at Duddon commanded by major Thomas Carniby, should have fallen into Newcastle at Sandgate, and Delavall's troops at Westgate; and that there was in the said party at Duddon, as he heard them named, mr. Henry Widdrington of Ritton, and one Gawen Shawden, whom they called captain, who

who brought into Duddon about 50 horse, and that the said party stayed at Duddon from seven of the clock that night until eleven of the same, about which time came major Thomas Carniby, and one with him, whom they called major Hebburne's man, with orders from Newcastle, as he had heard them relate, who said, that there was three hundred sail of ships come into Newcastle, for fear of whom they durst not fall upon Newcastle at that time; and after consultation had in private by some of the chief there present, the party thereby commanded marched westward into the country; and the informant did then leave them, refusing to march with them.

Taken and sworn before us,

ROBERT MITFORD,
JOHN OGLE.

EEMUND TURNER.

This informant further saith, that Edward Bell within named, and Michael Wondigates, who came along with captain Gawen Snawdon, as he heard them named, were present with that party at Duddon within named.

Capt. John Griffiths to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

SINCE my last our intelligence was, that the enemy (haveing notice of our readines and preparation against them) had wholly disperfed themselves, which made us almost secure; but last night came notice from a very good hand, that theire designe, notwithstanding what discovery was already made, would be attempted very suddenly; and that it was generally layd in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and in those partes most especially against Chester, Sallop, and Chirke, which made mee this last night to doubte my guard (in this cytty) which I have attended every night, save one, since the first discovery; and purpose by the blessing of God to continue the same, untill either this business bee over, or further directions come from his highness. For although severall persons (formerly officers in the army) would freely have assisted me, yet I find the cittizens generally averse to serve a straunger (as they call them.) I beseech you therefore, that alderman William Wright may bee apoynted to command the foote in this citty; his interest, estate, fidellity, &c. being equal or above any other cittizen's; and for former command he was captain of horse during all the warr, and in every other respect unblameable. It's true, lieutenant colonel Birkinhead and captain Whittworth may be capable of doing you contry service; but in the cytty they will disingage many, whom (under a cittizen) would be very faithfull; for really I finde them very unanimous and cheerefull in the duty, upon which I am at present, and do confydently beleeve, they will soe continue. Although I am as confydent, that this present designe of the enemy is totally broken and disperfed; yet I urge this as to our future safety and the publike good; both which are equally desired by,

Chester, March 12, 1654.

Sir, yours in all service, whilst

JO. GRIFFITHS.

The designe is certainly broken at present; they must wayte for a better opportunity.

Mr. R. Aldworth and mr. J. Powell to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

THE allarume wee have received from Sarum, and how that the enemye is upon the winge, hath put us upon our utmost indeavours to apeare in the best posture wee can for the defence of this place; which hath detayned the post, which otherwise had been with you much rather. Wee are very much discomposed as to the settinge of a malitia, in regard wee have noe authoritie or comission for it: to which ende this expresse is sent to his highness; meane while wee arme and list all that wee can for guards upon all partes of the citty; and have scoutes abroad for intelligence. Ther hath been lists given you for commissioners and captains; and mr. Farmer hath inclosed another list. If they may be aproved of, wee endeavour to rayse a troope of horse alsoe, which wee desire may be comanded by major John Harper. Wee have declared the grounds of our undertakinge accordinge to the writings inclosed. The stop of our posts since saturday hath made us very solicitous how thinges stood above. Wee humbly pray you to further a speedy answer to

A. D. 1654. to the inclosed, that wee be the better inabled to stande for our lives in this publique danger, which is all at present from

Your most humble servants,

We are yett in quiett, and all the adjacent parts.

RO. ALDWORTH.
JAMES POWELL.

Bristoll, March 12, 1654.

Mr. Manning to secretary Thurloe.

Dunkirque, March 22, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 174.

ALL that I shall now say is, that you would please not to faile writing 2 or 3 lines to me the next post, and send itt in the inclosed cover sealed up, and send me a bill of exchange for 40 or 50 l. sterl. made payable to mr. John Clutterbook or his assignes, loofe in a cover, and not inclosed in your letter to me; but in your letter send me a pass I last writt for without faile; and as you order me, I will not faile disposing of myself. Herein for most important reasons I pray faile not. I am satisfied in my self, that mine by the last post came too late to you to have a dispatch by this last pacquett; but this next I expect your's with much impatience, being,

Sir, your humble servant,

H. MANNERING.

Lett the bill be charged on any marchant in Antwerp, Bruges, or Dunkirque.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburgh, to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 213.

I AM truly glad to heare, that his highnes and his counsell were in soe hopefull a way to gett to the bottome of that dangerous designe. It was tyme indeed to secure those, that would neither owne the government, nor engage to live peacably. God direct your counsell to make the best use of his soe providentiall discoverys made to you for securinge against such destructive projects.

Notwithstandinge the last letters from England of the 2d instant, speakinge all there in quiet, yet will not this people beleave, by reason of what's writt them from Flanders, France, and Holland, but that C. S. is certainly landed in some part of England, and lyes there perdue, till his partie appeare for him. By some vessels hence for London since last post, I gave you an extract of a letter then received from Colonia, directed to the post-master at Gravefend, to hast to you; but I doubt they got not out of this river, the wind cominge contrary; yet may probably come on e're theise, the winds beinge now more favourable. This inclosed is a copie thereof. If you can find one of the two disguised persons, much may be discovered by them; as likewise by Day, if he have beene false to his trust. I suppose Paul Roll hath writt to you of it, and what other matters he could discover. Your order concerneinge him I expect. I cannot yet heare from the expresse I sent to Berlin; soe conclude him either miscarried or false to his trust. This day I send my secretary after him. Certaine it is, that great leavies are on foote in theise parts by the kinge of Sweaden, both horse and foote, draweing towards Pomerania and the ports on the Baltique sea; and that he equips a great fleete; but most conclude that he designes all against the Pole, in or about some part of Prussia. His resident gave me a late visit; and then I gathered soe much from him, which is alsoe the generall opinion here. The duke of Brandenburg alsoe raiseth men, but that's most like to be for his owne defence, findinge the other to arme soe powerfully. I hope, there's noe cause to feare any harme to you from these parts, especially if you secure well at home. However I will endeavour to founde those preparations, to the bottome. There were five shippes this last weeke taken on heere for the transport of soldiers to Gottenburgh, but there's now a countermand come, and to hast the men by land to Pomeran. Here's a story from Paris, from whence many such come, that the quondam queene and duke of Yorke had taken their leave there, to meete C. S. in England; at least to lye wayte about Callis and at Dunkirk. The Holland merchants were soe confident of what they desired, that they offered their goods to sale, to be paid for them, when C. S. should raigne in England. For the busines of the companie, I find by lookinge over the copies of my late letters, that myne of the 13th of February, with

the narrative (which I heare from others was come on) together with my former accompt A. D. 1654. to his highness, of the 9th of January, answers to your last letter of the 23d of February, for the sendinge over of this particular case, if the companie would not doe the justice, which is fitt. I am glad the companie there have soe plainly discovered themselves to his highness. I well knowe whence mr. Townley and his partie had their encouragement; a little tyme may discover more of it. If he can purge himselfe by that oportunity, I shall be glad of it. What I have charged him with was not done in a corner, but for the most part in a court, and with soe much confidence, as shewed he valued not beinge called to an accompt for it. I have noe malice to the man, nor any of his partie, but am sorie for their peevisshnesse. They have forced me to what I have done. If his highnesse thinke fitt to putt the government into their hands, it shall be done soe soon as I have order for it. In the meane tyme, they act their affaires by an assembly, as is usual, in the absense of a deputie. If I had not understood it a dutie incumbent upon me to remonstrate, as I have done, I should not have busied my selfe with the busines. If care may be taken of the well affected, that they be not abused for their faithfulnessse by malignants, it will give me little care, who the companie take for their deputie. They cannot be more weary of my service, then I am of their's. They make their owne distractions, and then complaine of them; a pritty specious way of proceedinge. I expect your next will inclose some copies of the petition and remonstrance, with a commission to examine witnesses, which I have soe longe desired. I doe not doubt of his highnesse's justice in heareinge me before any thinge be done to my prejudice. God willinge, I shall make it appeare, that I have deserved no lesse; and that the matter concernes me noe further than as it comes within the verge of the trust reposed in me. Therefore I thinke it somewhat strange, that a disaffected partie should be soe countenanced against me for it; but this may be noe tyme for such matters. I shall waite what further is comanded me, and remayne,

Sir, your very humble servant,

Hamb. March 13, 1654.

RICHARD BRADSHAWE.

The inclosed comes to my hands, as I am sealinge my packett. I suppose the party will be with you ere theise come on. Now that mr. Townley is gone home, Spurway is come back to keepe that party in hart, and to counsel them; and it's said by them, that George Waites is shortly expected here with the emperor's protection. I longe since desired a letter might be writt to the senate, owneinge what I had done in his expellinge, which you promised should be sent me. I pray, hast it. I am sorie what I have said doth not satisfie you of my endeavours for peace; but I have that testimony in my selfe, and from others, soe as I can acquiesce. The wynde is come contrary, soe as the ships cannot get home. At instant comes this second from Colonia: thence they write chancelor Hyde is gone with old Hardinge, it's thought for England, whence it's conjectured the storme is not yet over. God direct your counsells and actions to prevent and disappoint your enemies.

Information against John Morgan.

Saturday, March 13, 1654.

THERE met at Edward Jones's, at Elfmeer an alehouse, major Manley, captain Vol. xxiv. Jones, captain Bellingham, two captains more, with Randall Eaton. They continued p. 185. all that day at Jones his house, and went thence to John Morgan's, an alehouse and fidler, and continued there most part of the night, and pretended mr. Kynaston of Halley was to meet them, and that they were to buy lands. This John Morgan being after at Wrexham fair, said to their work shortly would be cutting of throats, and being asked by one mr. Huxley, that was by, what he meant, took a knife in his hand, and put it to his throat, and said, this way and that way.

RICHARD HUXLEY

JOHN JONES

EDWARD CLARKE

} Witnesses.

To send to John Cupper of Elfmeer for direction.

This Morgan tore the proclamation off the market house, in contempt of the lord protector, and fled upon the same.

March 13, 1654.

SIR,

William Neal came to Otley with a trumpet, and mr. Kynaston went with him to Hanmer, and there met with sir Thomas Hanmer, and were all that day in private conferring, and looking over papers.

SUSANNA CROXSON, witness,
and others.

VOL. III.

3 M

The

The examination of John Butler of Felhampton, taylor, taken upon oath, before Charles Langford, esq; one of the justices of the peace in the county of Salop, the 13th day of March, 1654.

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
p. 186.

WHO saith, that upon friday or saturday last was a sevensnight, being the 2d or 3d days of this instant March, he was sent for by mr. Vincent Edwards, of Streaton, to come to him, and speak with him; but this examine went not to him till tuesday last, being the 6th of March; where after some conference betwixt them, the said mr. Vincent Edwards told this examine, that there was a plot to take Shrewsbury upon thursday or friday next after; and asked this examine, whether he would go with him; but on the morrow, being wednesday, he returned home to Felhampton town, where he dwelleth, and did not go again to the said mr. Edwards; and that when he came to Wistanstowe, he acquainted mr. John Rusback his wife of Wistanstowe of the business; but this examine knoweth not of any other person, that had any hand in the plot; and farther saith not.

CHARLES LANGFORD.

The mark [] of JOHN BUTLER aforesaid.

This examination was owned before us by the said John Butler, this 3d of April; and he farther affirmed, that he believed mr. Edwards knew the design, and did intend to persuade him to engage therein, and he this examine did acquaint mrs. Rusback therewith, that they might provide for their safety, that if the design upon Shrewsbury succeeded, mr. Rusback and his wife, and that family might not be prejudiced thereby.

JOHN BUTLER his [] mark.

WILLIAM CROWNE
EDWARD CRESSETT.

Captain John Griffiths to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 189.

I WENT my selfe into Wales yesterday, to the end I might be able to give you some exact satisfactory accompt of this present designe, and do really finde the thinge it selfe to be true (although not many of the particulars formerly sent either to us or you) for that there was a reall plott, and generally layd, is not denyed by severall persons now in custody; the execution wherof was prevented by the speciall providence of God directing some to discover, and others upon notice to prepare for the preservation off the peace under the present government. A copy of the designe, as it is given by one of the party, with a copy also of his owne letter unto a gentleman of worth and fidellity, I have herein inclosed sent you; both which I received yesterday from his owne hands, to whom it was sent. If any person in these parts were authoris'd to apprehend and examine suspected persons, you might suddenly have a better accompt; but at present I finde, that 20, 30, 40, or 50 cavilleers have lately been very frequent at their meetings, and given sufficient cause of offence, but no persons here being in power to apprehend them, in order to their further accompt, they disperse themselves, acting, as they say, nothing tending to the breach of the publique peace, although I doubt not the contrary might easily be made out, if well inquired into. I shall not trouble you further at present, but subscribe my selfe,

Sir, your most humble servant,

Chester, March 13, 1654.

JOHN GRIFFITHS.

Col. Robert Lilburne to general Lambert.

MY LORD,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 190.

I Understand by col. Bright, that none of your troopes can conveniently goe into Lancashire, by reason two are gon to Newarke, and two men out of the rest to Hull. I have onely two heare of my owne, two at Durham, and two about Beadell, and every man's hands full as they can be, as I perceive the 6 Irish troopes are, all of us being hard at worke fetching in great persons, that were at severall randevouzes on thursday night last; and at present, if I spare any of these troopes, many considerable persons wil be untaken, that are guilty, and now discovered to mee; for they begin to flye away alreadie from their homes, where they thought they should have rested undiscovered after their being at a randevouz, where they

they were strangely frightened with their owne shaddows. Therefore I pray supply Lanca-
shire for the present some other way; but least they should againe rise or returne upon us,
I am lifting 10 men in each of my owne troopes. I hope the greates estates these blaides
leave behinde them will pay for all the charge, if you forgive them not againe. I have
sent a large account to his highnes, and therefore intreate your acceptance of these at
present from

A. D. 1654.

Your lordshipp's most humble servant,

Yorke, March 13, 1654.

R. L.

The superscription,

*For the right honourable the lord Lambert,
these, att Whitehall.*

Lord chief justice St. John to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Received yours this morning betweene 9 and 10 a clocke, as I was going to give my
charge. I hope the Lord will be pleased in goodnes to keepe the nation from blood,
but his will is allways perfecte and good. As for my selfe, it matters noe great matter, soe
as the nation and cause of God may prosper. I am, I beleve, in his way; and therefore
I thinke I should goe out of it, if I should neglecte the performance of the presente service;
and therefore, relying upon his protection, I am resolved, God willing, to goe on the
circuite. My brother Atkins is not yet acquaintd with your letter, being on the nisi prius
side. I hope itt will not be judged presumptuousnes, but dutie, which makes me thus to
resolve. Sir, I am

Vol. xxiv.
p. 191.

Your most assured servant and freinde,

Martii 13. 1654.

OL. ST. JOHN.

We goe to morrow to Burie in Suffolke.

Mr. Anthony Nicoll to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

I Know you are soe full of weighty affayres, that I shall very unwillingly give you the
least trouble; only give mee leave to retourne unto you my harty thanks for all the care
and abundant love you shewed mee in my businesse. I shall saye noe more as to that, but
that you have obleedged one, that will faythfully serve his highnesse in any thinge that
comes within the compasse of my poore power. My actions, by the permission of my
gretious and good God, shall give hym and you the clearest evidence of this. I am very
hopefull, that affayres will goe on very smoothly heere. As soone as I cam into the coun-
try, I sent for the agent to the committee of the army, which particularly lookes after the
assements, and hee informes mee, that busynesse is in a good forwardnesse; and I doubt
not, but that his highnesse shall have as very good accompt of that, as likewise of the
keepinge the peace and quiett of the county; though I must tell you, 'tis generally cavillerish
enough. And truely, 'tis apprehended by many honest and well affected people, that the
caveleeres in these parts had likewise a finger, and would have had a hand in this last plott,
had not the lord discovered itt, and by his highnesse care and industry nipt it in the bud.
I shall labour and earnestly looke out after particulars of itt, and as any thinge is discovered,
you shall be sure constantly to heare of that or any other things worthy your view. Divers
cavileers are committed; and truely 'tis not more then need; for I thinke some of them
very dangerous, and would engage in any designe. If this letter com safe unto your hand,
you shall be sure to heare from mee by next more particularly; and soe I humbly take
leave to tender unto his Highnesse by your hands my most sincerely devoted faythfull ser-
vice; and be you assured, honourable sir, I am ever

Vol. xxiv.
p. 221.

Your reall, thankfull, and humble servant,

Penrose, March 13, 1654.

ANTHONY NICOLL.

SIR,

I am fully perswaded, if you keepe quiett above, and grow towards a settlement, the
countrys will quietly setle.

Col.

Col. H. Haynes to *secretary* Thurloe.

EVER HONOURED SIR,

A. D. 1654.
 Vol. xxxvi. p.
 222.

I Received his highness my lord protector's letters of intelligence, and yours of the 12th instant by one a clock this day, and soone dispatched the same messenger, that brought them, to Norwich (who wil be there by morning, I doubt not) with instructions to the officers there to conforme to those I received; and there care therein I doe not question. Synce when I sent to sir Thomas Honywood, col. Cooke, major Templer, and others of good affection in theise parts, to meet heere in the morne, to agree what to doe in order to the security of the county. I gave them coppies of the intelligence I had, to provoke them the more to expedition. An account of their results uppon their meeting I'll transmitt to you with all speed. I sent also to Ipswich, Sudbury, and Berry, and gave them a hint also, in which county, if col. Fortergill of Sudbury had a commission for a foote regiment, and major John Moody for a major of some horse, there also, it would doe exceeding well. They are persons both knowne and interested much, and of very good affection; but I submitt it. I purpose this night to fly about for malignants and their horses; but there are but few, that have engaged, though many of ill affection, Papists, and others up and downe; the earle of Oxford, sir Frauncis Cammock, Sir Benjamin Ayloff; and all theise parts yet quyett, but not to be trusted. This towne, especially the government of it looking ill uppon us, and incredulous of any trouble, if some speciall regard be not had to it, will certainly run malignant. I am sure Mersey island is not a hundred part that consideration, as this place: if therefore that companie might be sent hither, if we remove, it may secure the maine chance; else I feare, if we goe hence, the thousands, that are fitt to bare armes, and extreemly malignant, as any I came amongst, may doe mischeife. I feare them not, whyle we stay. The towne is not to be trusted with armes: if they should, the country gentlemen would be troubled, least they should turne them uppon the best freinds of the publike. I pray, sir, one word thereof, if it be not too great boldness to divert you from your more weighty occasions. I shall carefully communicate all intelligence that comes to hand. In the meane tyme begg, that you would account me for,

Sir, your truly humble servant,

HE. HAYNES.

The want of pay is the great discouragement of getting recruits. I knowe noe endeavours of that kind are wanting. Papers would helpe us to many, if we had them.

Colchester, March 13, 1654.
 Tuesday night, 7 a clock.

Northum. *The information of Michael Pratt, taken at Morpeth, the 13th day of March, 1654.*

Vol. xxiv.
 p. 210.

WHO faith, that he this informant was upon thursday at night, being the 8th of this instant, at a place called Duddo, where he saw major Thomas Carnaby, Gawin Snowden, Michael Windegates, William Pott, of Warton, and one Wallas of Castron; and they reported, that one Roger Hall of Rutchefer was there; John Davison of Newton in Coquatt, Edward Bell of Duddo, and his son Edward William Bell of Stannington. And this informant faith, that he heard some of the company say, that mr. Henry Widdrington of Ritton was there, and one William Aldcorne of Morpeth, who perswaded this informant to go along with him to the said Duddo.

Taken this day abovesaid by me

CHARLES HOWARD.

The examination of George Clayton, &c.

March 13, 1654.

Vol. xxiv.
 p. 202.

GEorge Clayton, servant to Pennistone Whalley of Screton in the county of Nottingham, esq; of the age of 16 years, examined, faith, that upon thursday last, about one a clock, the said mr. Whalley went out from his house with a greyhound to course a hare, which the

the examine had found in the morning, and that mr. Whalley rode upon a black horse, and he the examine upon a galloway of the same colour; but the hare being gone before they came, mr. Whalley and the examine rode directly the road to Nottingham, where they alighted at the Blackamore's head, at the house of mr. Cornish, and from thence went to mr. Topladies, to a mercer's shop, and thence mounted and came home again to Screton that night about sun setting: and faith, that mr. Whalley hath been constantly at home at Screton ever since; and faith that mr. Whalley's two men, Simon Barnefather and Edward Dovey, were at home all that night at Screton.

GEORGE CLAYTON.

Captain Chement Nedham, of col. Hacker's regiment testifieth, that on Monday night last coming with two troops of col. Hacker's to the house of captain John Cooper in Thirgaton; and that having taken sir Roger Cooper and two Coolers, servants to the said captain Cooper, presently fell into discourse with Frances Whittoph, a maid that waits on mrs. Cooper, and pretending to know the whole truth of the late insurrection at Rufford; and that it was contrived in that very house of mr. Cooper's aforesaid, at the meeting there the week before, the maid said, that she would be hanged, if Peniston Whalley had not betrayed them; and confessed he was at such a meeting, with two of the Baldwin's, major Scott, and several others, but that she believed mr. Whalley was not at the rendezvous at Rufford, but that his two men, Simon Barnefather and Ed. Dovey were there.

CLE. NEDHAM.

Simon Barnefather, coachman to Peniston Whalley, esq; examined faith, that upon thursday last mr. Pen. Whalley, and Geo. Clayton, his boy, rode forth about 10 in the morning, and the examine heard they went that night to Barlor, and believes it to be true, because he saw his master there the next day at a greyhound match. And farther faith, that on thursday night aforesaid about 6 a clock he this examine, with Edward Dovey, another servant of mr. Whalley, took each of them a horse out of their master's stable, and rode to Thirgaton, to mr. John Cooper's house, where mr. John Cooper gave this examine a case of pistols and holsters, at which time he saw a cart standing on the backside, in which were arms; and that, after half an hour's stay at Thirgaton aforesaid, he the examine and Dovey aforesaid, marched along with the said mr. John Cooper, his man Peter, and mr. Thomas Naylor, and about 6 others whom the examine knows not, and about 11 of the clock came to the green near Rufford Abby, and mr. John Cooper with some other gentlemen went into a private room in the inn there, and others stayed upon the green, and about 12 a clock the cart aforesaid laden with arms came thither, but at length mr. Cooper came forth, and told the examine, that they were discovered, and bade every man shift for himself; whereupon the examine and Edward Dovey aforesaid returned the same night to Screton, to their master's house; and faith, that mr. Whalley came not home to Screton untill the saturday night following, but denies he saw him at Rufford aforesaid.

SIMON BARNEFATHER.

Edward Dovey, servant to Peniston Whalley, esq; examined, faith, that on thursday last, a little before dinner time, his master aforesaid, with his boy, went forth on horseback, and the examine heard his master say, that he intended to go that night to Barton to mr. Leache Verill's house, and he did not return till saturday night; and faith, that on thursday about day light, that he the examine, with Simon Barnefather, his master's coachman, took two horses out of the stable of mr. Whalley, one a bay, which the examine rode, and the other an iron-grey mare, which Simon rode; and they both marched to Thirgaton to mr. John Cooper's house, where they found two of the Baldwins, one mr. Thomas Naylor, and one Binns, and they all marched together to Rufford Abby, and alighted at an inn there, where they found divers gentlemen, some coming in, and others going out; and the examine about 12 a clock saw a cart laden with arms come to the door of the inn, but presently the company dispersed; and denies he knew any of the company, saving as aforesaid.

ED. DOVEY.

The examination of John Maddockes, of Shrewsbury, dier, taken the 13th day of March, 1654. before William Crowne, esq;

Being asked whether he knew sir Thomas Harris, he faith, that if he met him, he did Vol. xxiv. not know him, neither doth he know of any design against the garrison or castle of P. 205. Shrewsbury; but faith, that about a fortnight since, he this examine, being at one Vol. III. 3 N Andrew

A. D. 1654. *W* Andrew Dawes his house, of Shrewsbury, there were with him one Thomas Maddockes, corvisor, and the said Andrew Dawes and his wife; and then one Joseph Tyler told this examine, that he saw eight hundred men upon Delamere heath. And being asked, whether he spoke any thing touching the taking of Shrewsbury, with one Joseph Jenkes; he saith, that on wednesday last he went with the said Joseph Jenkes and one Samuel Gough, at one Jebb's house, who lives at the Saracen's head in Frankwell, one of the suburbs of Shrewsbury, and that upon conference with them he told them, that he heard that there was eight hundred men on Delamere heath, but denieth that he expressed to the said Jenkes, that if he did discover any thing what he this examine told him, he would cut his throat, or any words to that effect: and this examine doth acknowledge that he did meet with the said Joseph Jenkes upon the last sabbath day, and then did desire him to say nothing of what he before had told him touching this business, for that it was as much as his this examine's life was worth.

JOHN MADDOCKES.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

Northum. *The information of William Bell, of Stanington, taken the 13th day of March, 1654.*

Vol. xxiv.
p. 206.

*W*HO saith, that upon thursday the 8th of this instant he this informant went to Duddoe, and there met with a party of about fourscore horse; and he knew amongst them Henry Widdrington of Ritton, Gawin Snowden, and Mich. Windegaites. And this informant farther saith, that it was reported amongst them, that Sir Thomas Fairfax was to be their general, and farther saith not.

Taken by
CH. HOWARD.

Salop. *The information of Joseph Jenkes, taken the 13th day of March, 1654. before Humphrey Mackworth, esq; and William Crowne, esq; a justice of the peace.*

Vol. xxiv.
p. 207.

*T*HE information of Joseph Jenkes, of Frankwell, one of the suburbs of the town of Shrewsbury, who saith, that one day this last week, coming from work home to his quarters, there was one John Maddox, dier, in the house; and upon conference between them, the said Maddox said, that there were five hundred men to meet together; and this informer asking him where, the said Maddox bid him come to Rowse-hill, and he should meet him or see them, but in the conclusion said to this informer, that if he did disclose it, he would stab him, or cut his throat, or kill him, which of the three expressions he doth not very well remember. Much more the said Maddox said to this informer, to the same purpose, but now do not very well remember. And farther this examine saith, that upon farther conference with the said Maddox upon Wednesday night last, he this examine asked him, what they could do by the castle of Shrewsbury, the said Maddox answered to this examine, that that castle is as good as ours, or that that business is as good as done, or words to that effect.

JOSEPH JENKES.

And farther this examine saith, that upon sabbath day last the said Maddox met this examine, and told him, that if he did discover any thing of what he the said Maddox had told this examine, it was as much as his the said Maddox's life was worth.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

Col. Barkstead, lieutenant of the Tower, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 201.

I Received yours at 12 the last night, in which his highness's pleasure as to the seizing of all the serviceable horses within the division was formally assigned mee, which is accordingly done. I have noe convenient place for them to remaine in the Tower. I therefore earnestly desire you would hasten his highness's pleasure to mee as to the dispose of them. I feare Southwark, Islington, and the towns neere hand, were omitted, in which at all times there are great numbers of horses, and usually belonging to the worst of people. I am, sir,

Your affectionate freind to serve you,

Tower of London, March 13, 1654.

JOHN BARKSTEAD.

At an assembly of the mayor and aldermen and common council held the 13th of March, 1654.

IT is ordered and declared, that this house doth engage for his highness the lord protector, and the commonwealth under the present government, against Charles Stuart, cavaliers, levellers, and all other opposers of the publique peace of the nation and of this city. A. D. 1654. Vol. xxiv. p. 212.

ALDWORTH.

And we whose names are underwritten do subscribe the aforefaid engagement.

Mr. Isaac Dorislaus to secretary Thurloe.

THE letter, which was intercepted under cover to mr. Constable, to be delivered to Vol. xxiv. p. 193. Ig. was for one White, who doth belong to the marquis of Barriere. Hee writ last night to the party, that sent him the character, which was false into the hands of his highness, that hee should send him another under a merchant's cover, whereof I intend to take a coppie, as soon as it comes. This is hee, I am perswaded, that doth give the intelligence to monsieur de Bourdeaux, both concerning the affaires of this state, and them of the Prince of Condé. Two or thre of his letters will discover to your honour in a short tyme his whole designe. I have made enquiry of a friend of mine about the place of the clarke of the passage at Dover; and hee tells me, that one Jeniper hath been employed in that place for many yeeres, and was put in by the earle of Suffolk, being his servant; and the said earl being then admiral, and the place being in his disposall. For the worth of the place, that is according to the honesty of the person therein employed; it may be worth some 300 l. per ann.

Your honor's most humble servant,

March 13, 1654.

ISAAC.

Order of the protector to the governor of Jersey.

WHEREAS col. Robert Gibbon, governor of our island of Jersey, hath represented unto Vol. xxiv. p. 219. us, that for the better safegaurd of the said island and accommodation of the soldiers now in garrison there, that the castles and forts standing thereon be not only repaired, but that some addition of building be made thereto, and that beds and coverlids be provided for the use of the said soldiers, as also carriages and other materials for the great guns there; and a considerable store of provisions, as well of war as victuals and other necessaries, be laid in the said castle; least any attempts be made upon the same by any our enemies whatsoever; we have taken the same into our consideration, and being willing, that what is necessary and convenient should be done therein, do therefore refer the same to the care and prudence of the commissioners appointed for making compositions with the islanders, or any two or more of them, who are hereby authorized and enabled to do therein, what shall seem to them to be needfull and requisite for the ends aforesaid; and who are also empowered to issue orders from time to time under the hands of them, or any two or more of them, for the payment of such monies, as they shall judge necessary to be expended about the same, out of the monies arising upon compositions with the islanders, and such money as our receiver general of the said compositions shall issue forth upon the orders given as aforesaid. The respective officers of our exchequer are hereby required and authorized to allow the same upon his account accordingly. And we will, that the said commissioners for compounding, or any two of them, do immediately repair to our said castles and forts, and inform themselves by the best way and means they can, as well what arms, ammunition, and other provisions and utensils of war, as also what household stuff, furniture, goods and other necessaries were left in the said castles and forts, by col. James Heane, late governor there, and they take care, that the same be inventoried and delivered over to the present governor, to be by him employ'd and kept for our use and service. Given at Whitehall the 13th day of March, 1654.

General

General Blake to Secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

A. D. 1654.
 Vol. xxiv.
 P. 235.

YOUR's of the 25th of January, as also the former mentioned in that, I have received. In the latter you informe me of the dissolution of the parliament, with the grounds and consequents of it. I was not much surprized with the intelligence; the slow proceedings and awkward motions of that assembly giving great cause to suspect it would come to some such period; and I cannot but exceedingly wonder, that there should yet remaine so strong a spirit of prejudice and animosity in the minds of men, who profes themselves most affectionate patriots, as to postpose the necessary wayes and meanes for preservation of the commonwealth, especially in such a time of concurrence of the mischievous plots and desseins both of old and new enemies, tending all to the destruction of the same. But blessed be the Lord, who hath hitherto delivered, doth still deliver us; and I trust will continue soe to do, although he be very much tempted by us. Sir, in my last unto you I gave you notice of our intention to saile out of the roade of Leghorne to Trapanoe, and thence to Tunis; but upon intelligence after given us of the soden meeting of the Algier and other men of war in Tunis-bay, bound into the Levant for the service of the grand signor (which intelligence proved to be untrue) we hasted away towards Tunis directly, and somewhat sooner then did well stand with the state of our provisions at that tyme. After our arrival there, which was the 7th of February, I did forthwith send ashore unto the dye of Tunis a paper of demands for restitution of the ship Princeesse, with satisfaction for losses, and enlargement of captives, according to the particular instruction, which I received for that purpose. After some answers and replies commissioners of both sides were agreed upon to capitulate, which met aboard our ship; but the meeting proved altogether fruitles, they refusing to make a restitution or satisfaction for what was past, but pretending an earnest desire to conclude a firme peace for the future. Hereupon we sailed away before Porto Farina, not farre off where their ships of warr lay, being kept in by a party of our frigats sent thither before. At our coming before the place, we perceived their ships to be drawne up as neere the shore as they could, lightned and unrigged; their guns planted upon divers batteries upon the land, and a kind of formed campe, consisting of some thousands of horse and foote, as if they feared some invasion. Some debate we had amongst ourselves, whether we should saile into the port with our fleete, and attaque their ships where they were; to which there seemed to be a willing inclination in all; but entering upon consideration of the best ways how to effect it, we found the enterprize to have much difficulty, in regard of a strong castle within, before which we must anchor with our great ships at halfe muskett shot, and the port too narrow for our fleete to turne in it, especially at that time. It was judged to be an attempt unreasonable and desperate, there being not in the fleet above 5 dayes liquor, and a great scarcity of bread. And here I hold it seasonable to let you know, that we are not fully satisfied as touching the power given in that particular instruction, authorising us, in case of refusal of right, to seize, surprize, sinke, and destroy all ships and vessels belonging to the kingdome of Tunis, that we shall meet; which, as it doth not expressly forbid us to enter their ports to that end, so neither doth it expressly impower us, especially being compared with that part of the generall instruction, concerning Turkish pirates, limiting us in such cases only to block up their harbours for some dayes. This I write, as wishing that the intent of this and other instructions of this nature might be more cleare and explicit, and more plainly significant as to our duty; but upon the forementioned consideration we desisted from the enterprize at that present, and sailed directly for this place, leaving the Plimouth, Kent, Newcastle, Mermaid, Taunton, Foresight, to attend that service. At our arrivall in this place, we found the Langport and the other three fregatts sent out of Leggorne roade to ply between Majorca and Cape Paul, which brought in with them a new French frigate of 15 gunns, but one that will beare more; another ship of war, called the Percy, an English vessel, well knowne, of 30 guns, they forced ashore at Majorca, where not able to possesse themselves of it, being also extreemly battered and spoiled, they tooke 3000 dollars of the governor of that place for it, who was likewise upon agreement to be at the charge of sending home all the French in her, which were 300 in number. This morning I sent the Langport and Diamond to Majorca, to take in what bread they can gett, and so to range as farr as Alicanet, and thence to go to Genoa, to meet with the Maidston, and Hampshire, which I have ordered to saile thither to make, cleane, and also to gett a supply of bread. We were also this morning under saile with the rest of the fleete, the Hope fly-boat only excepted, which is to remaine here to make provision of bread, till further order. But it proving first calme, and then the wind, which was contrary, we came againe to anchor. Our intention is to saile hence with the first opportunity to the Bay of Tunis, to put an end to the business there, which we shall endeavour to doe with all the resolution and circumspection which we can, as God shall direct us, it being a business of manifold concernments and interests, and subject to

divers

divers consequents and constructions. Of the issue thereof, with all the particular passages, I A. D. 1654. will hereafter (the Lord willing) give you an account. Sir, the commands of his highnes the lord protectour writt with his owne hand, of which you gave me an intimation in yours, I have received, and here made bold to returne an answere thereto in writing, which I desire you to present, together with my most humble and faithfull acknowledgements of duty and service for all the favours, which for many years I have received in a very large measure from his highnes. You will hereby very much endear me, and continew to add, as you ever do, to the obligations of,

Sir, your affectionate friend and servant,

Abord the George, in the bay
of Calarie, March 14, 54.

ROB. BLAKE.

OLIVER P.

Oliver lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging, to sir Francis Russel, bart. major general John Disbrowe, John Thurloe, esq; George Glapthorne, Tristram Diamond, Francis Underwood, esqrs. doctor Richard Staine, captain Moses, and Henry Farrar, esqrs. greeting.

WHEREAS the enemies of the peace of this commonwealth are still restless in Vol. xxiv. their designs of raising new troubles in our own bowels, and have at this time p. 229. raised forces, and are now in actual rebellion in several parts of this nation, robbing, plundering, and spoiling the good people thereof; and we holding ourself obliged by our trust to take care of the peace of this commonwealth, and of every part thereof, we have therefore, by advice of our council, constituted and appointed, and by these presents do constitute and appoint you the said sir Francis Russel, John Disbrowe, John Thurloe, George Glapthorne, Tristram Diamond, Francis Underwood, Richard Staine, captain Moses, and Henry Farrar, or any three or more of you, to be commissioners for the militia of the isle of Ely; and shall have power, and are hereby authorized, to raise, traine, exercise, and put in readines, all such persons, to serve as well on horseback as on foot, as you, or any three or more of you, shall think fit, in the said isle of Ely, and as are meet to bear arms as aforesaid, under such colonels, commanders, and field-officers, as we shall appoint and commissionate for that purpose; who shall have power to lead, muster, conduct, and employ the persons aforesaid, armed, and weaponed, for the suppression of the said rebels, and of all rebellions, insurrections, invasions, tumults, and other unlawful assemblies whatsoever, that may happen in the said isle of Ely. And farther we do authorize you, or any three or more of you, with the said forces of horse and foot, or otherwise, to oppose, seize, secure, and disarm, or, in case of resistance, to kill and slay the said rebels, and all other persons, who have or shall cause or make any such tumults, insurrections, or invasions, or levy any force against us, this government, or commonwealth; and shall have farther power and authority to disarm all known papists, and dangerous and seditious persons, and all such as shall raise, or endeavour to raise, any tumults or insurrections, and to put the arms of all such persons into the hands of such well affected persons as you, or any three or more of you, shall think fit, to serve as aforesaid with their said arms, under such officers as aforesaid; and you, or any three or more of you, shall observe these instructions, and such other instructions and directions as you shall receive from us, with advice of our council. Given at Whitehall, this 14th day of March, 1654.

OLIVER P.

Instructions unto sir Francis Russel, Bart. major general John Disbrowe, John Thurloe, esq; George Glapthorne, Tristram Diamond, Francis Underwood, esqrs. doctor Richard Staine, captain Moses, and Henry Farrar, esqrs. appointed by commission from his highness the lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, by and with the advice of his council, to be commissioners for ordering and managing the militia of the isle of Ely.

1. **Y**OU, or any three of you, shall immediately, upon receiving of the said commission Vol. xxiv. and these instructions, meet in some convenient place in your island, and so from p. 230. time to time, as oft as the service shall require it, for putting in execution these instructions with effect.

2. You, or any three of you, are to inform yourselves of all conspiracies, practices, and secret meetings of papists or disaffected persons; and from time to time any of you that

VOL. III.

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are

A. D. 1654. are in the commission of the peace, are to take informations and examinations upon oath in writing, as you shall see cause, concerning the matters aforesaid, whether expressed by word or action, spoken, printed, written, published, or done wheresoever, against the peace and welfare of the commonwealth.

3. You, or any three of you, are authorised and required to disarm, secure, or commit all papists, or other ill affected persons, that have of late appeared, or shall declare themselves in their words or actions against the present government, or shall hold correspondence with Charles Stuart, son of the late king, or with any other person or nation, tending to the disturbance of the public peace, or have or shall minister any supplies to the said Charles Stuart, or any adhering to him, or any other the enemies or rebels of this commonwealth, or who have or shall raise, or endeavour to raise, any tumults or insurrections within the same, or be justly suspected to do the same, and also to seize the horses of all such persons for the use of the commonwealth.

4. You are likewise from time to time to observe, what strangers, or other persons, from other places resort to your island, and to what persons they apply themselves. And you are to inform yourselves, as near as you can, of their business and occasions in those parts; and, in case you are not well satisfied with their reasons and accounts given you, you are then to acquaint us or our council with the names of such persons, and to endeavour to secure them in the mean time, and till farther order.

5. Whereas many arms were raised and provided by the authority of the late militia and other occasions, which remain dispersed into several places, whereof there may be a dangerous use made, to the disturbance of the peace of this commonwealth, for prevention whereof you are to take special care, that all the arms, so as aforesaid raised, and all other arms in your island, as well horse as foot, whether defensive or offensive, and also all ammunition, provisions of war, and trophies be secured, by putting them into safe places, or leaving them in safe hands, in such a way, as you upon the place shall judge to be most for the peace and safety of the commonwealth; and that inventories be taken and kept of all the arms, and other things, so taken and secured, or left in the owners hands, to prevent imbezelmments and misconversion of the same; and to the end there may be assurance of having them in readiness for the publick use on all needful occasions.

6. Whereas by our commission you are impowered to raise such horse and foot, as shall be necessary for the peace of your island, under such field-officers or commanders, as we shall appoint; we have herewith sent to you commissions for field-officers, which you shall cause to be delivered to the several persons therein named respectively; and you, or any three of you, are hereby impowered and authorised to grant commissions to such inferior officers, as shall be recommended to you in that behalf by the said field-officer or officers, upon your approbation of them respectively.

7. Whereas there is a necessity of suppressing the present insurrection and rebellion, wherein no delay can be admitted, without apparent hazard to the three nations; you, or any three of you, in this exigency, are hereby authorised to charge any person or persons with horse and arms within your county, riding, liberty, or precinct, with respect had unto the quantity of his or their estates, and with respect also to the ease of the peaceable and well affected people of this nation; that the charge and burthen of these forces may be laid upon the malignant and disaffected party, who have been the cause of this insurrection.

8. You, or any three of you, are to take care, that such horse and arms as shall be charged to be provided as aforesaid, and all such other horse and arms as you shall find fit to make use of for the present service, during the time of any insurrection, rebellion, or invasion, be put into the hands of such well affected persons, and fit for war, as any three or more of them shall approve, which person and persons are hereby required to serve in arms, horse or foot-men accordingly; and that such persons be listed, trained, and mustered in several troops and companies, and formed into regiments, as you shall see cause; and you, or any three of you, are hereby authorised and required to cause the said forces to be drawn out and employed for suppressing and resisting the present rebellion, and all other invasions, insurrections, and rebellions, in your said county, riding, or precinct; and to bring the authors and abettors thereof to condign punishment. And you are to act and proceed farther, as you shall receive orders from time to time from us or our council.

9. You, or any three of you, may imprison any mutineers, disordered persons, or such as shall not do their duty, according to such commands and directions, as they shall receive from you, in pursuance of these instructions.

10. You, or any three or more of you, shall hereby have power to fine such persons for not sending in, or appearing with their horses and arms, upon any rebellion, invasion, or insurrection, the same not exceeding twenty pounds for each default; the said fines respectively to be employed for the service aforesaid: and likewise to levy, or cause to be levied the same on the lands and goods of the parties so offending.

11. For the better enabling you to put these instructions in execution, you are to require the sheriff of your county, and all other officers and ministers, to be assistant unto you,

and

and to keep correspondence with the commanders of the forces in pay of this common-wealth, who are hereby required, if there be cause, and as you shall make your application, to give you assistance for the execution hereof.

A. D. 1654.

March 14, 1654.

An intercepted letter.

SIR,

I Received yours of the 4th ould stile but yesterday, which is the first I have had from you this three weekes; notwithstanding I should have written, if I had not feared, that in these troublesome times I might have endangered you. As to some particulars of your letter, I can say nothing yett, till I enquire more at large, then the departure of this post

Vol. xxiv.
P. 195.

duke of Yorke and lord Jermyn will affoord mee time for. 743. 438. 398. were at Paris upon tewfday last,

lord Jermyn the king but had both beene from thence 9 or 10 daies. 398 denyes to have seen 413, or that hee hath beene in France; but I am very confident of both, having beene informed of it

lord Percy by a letter neere three weeks since from 367, who, you know, is likely enough to discover the certainty as soone as any. I doe verily beleve, hee is either in 648. 499. 125. 284.

in Scotland London lord Jermyn secretly in Holland 132. 638. not as you imagine in 444, nor yet, as 398 gives out, 626. 115. 383.

the queene the duke of Yorke better assurance 648. 585. is very confident. I doe not believe 743 will stir, till hee sees some 185. 161.

lord Jermyn but of these things I presume 398 has written more fully to you than I can. Heere is great underhand labouring for a peace betwixt the two crownes, all being for itt, except the cardinall, and such of the sould. as are in great charges; yet some beleve (though I am not of that number) the cardinall inclines more towards itt than ever. The emperour, from the apprehension of domestique troubles, advises and perswades the king of Spaine to an agreement; and itt is confidently reported, that the conclave seeing what factions are endeavoured to be made for each party, have (amongst other particulars which the next pope is to signe and sweare to) agreed, that hee sweare not to interest himselfe on either side, but to use all possible meanes to worke a reconciliation betwixt the two crownes, and to endeavour to the uttermost the generall peace of all catholique princes and states. 'Tis whispered heere,

Holland and England as a great secrett, but upon what grounds I cannot yet learne, that 383, 138, 248 may yet breake, which is not improbable, if France does, and if there shall be peace with Spayne. Pray write me all the newes you can safelie, for I am impatient to heare the issue of what mine eyes are upon; and I shall not fayle to write to you all I can learne heere; and by the next post shall give you an account of the other particulars you wrott about. I am, sir,

Your most affectionate faithfull servant,

Rouen, March the 24th st. no. [1654.]

R. B.

Nieuport, the Dutch ambassador in England, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

I AM sorry, that I am necessitated in this conjuncture of affairs to trouble you with the inclosed paper, whereof I made mention on saturday last. Believe me, that it is very requisite to redress such disorders, and to make it appear to your truest friends, that such illegal actions are not countenanced by the government. I am well informed, that the private men of war act still by virtue of the commissions issued out in November 1652, whereof a copy is here inclosed; and leave it to your own judgment to consider the consequences thereof, and to what constructions it is subject, that almost a year after the conclusion of a peace, such commissions are not repealed and annihilated, at least as far as is concerning the United Provinces; and assuring you, that I have as great a reflection in the premises to the interest of his most serene highness, as to my own country. I remain for ever,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 234.

Right honourable, your most affectionate humble servant,

W. NIEUPOORT.

I have

A. D. 1654. I have yet no answer to former papers delivered on the 1st of Feb. concerning the Blew Door of Amsterdam, and the St. Peter of Flushing, nor to that of the Sea Fortune exhibited the 19th of the same moneth, stilo Angl.

In Westminster, this $\frac{1}{4}$ of March 1654.

Nieuport, *the Dutch ambassador in England, to the protector.*

To his most serene highness the lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 84.

Nicholas T. Hoem, Peter Knecht, Peter Groot, and Cornelius Boes, merchants of Edam in Holland, and owners of some salt pans in the said town, where they make white salt of French salt, have humbly shewn to the lords the states general of the United Provinces, that to their great loss and inconveniency their ship called the Sheep, whereof is master Jacob Jansen Shaep of Aeckswyck, coming with a salt lading from Cheutres in France for their account towards Edam aforesaid, hath been taken and seized at sea near Portland, by a private man of war of this commonwealth, under pretence, that the said salt lading doth appertain to French subjects; whereas indeed it was solely bought and laden for the said four merchants of Edam aforesaid, every one having for his own account a fourth part of it, for to employ it in their aforesaid salt-pans, having paid, as appeared by the bill of exchange, for the said salt, in banco two thousand seven hundred and six and twenty guilders Holland money. And considering by such proceedings the free trade and navigation is disturbed, and the people of the United Provinces, contrary to the peace and amity, prejudiced and damnified extremely, the said lords the states general have by their letters of the $\frac{1}{11}$ of this instant given expresse and special order to the subscribed ambassador, that he should represent most seriously the said proceeding to his most serene highness, and desire in their name most instantly, that his highness be pleased to give order, that the said ship with the salt lading aforesaid be forthwith released, and that the captain and owners of the private man of war, which hath taken and detained the same, be ordered to allow the said merchants just and reasonable satisfaction for their costs and damages. Given at Westminster this $\frac{1}{4}$ of March 1654.

WILLIAM NIEUPOORT.

Mr. John Clarke to major Haynes at Colchester.

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 207.

AT my late coming from London, mr. Moody shewed me your letter dated the 7th of this instant, the which wee intended to have answered the next post, and this night about 11 a clock I received your letter dated 13th of this instant: by it and the inclosed I understand how things are. I shall forthwith communicate what you wish to our alderman mr. Moody and others, whome I dare confide in, and be assured, sir, there shal be noething wanting in us, as to watchfullnesse; but how at present to put ourselves into a posture of defence, I knowe not, except wee doe receive order from his highnes in order thereunto. In the meane time wee are in a naked condition, and the growth of papests is greate in this towne. I could hartlie wish, that col. Fothergill, who hath allwaies bene faithfull, weare impowered to have his regiment in a readinesse, &c. Sir, when I have consulted with others, I shal be in a better condition to write more fullie to you. In the meane time I crave leave to subscribe myselfe,

Sir, your most humble servant,

Bury, March 14, 1654.
6 a Clock in the morning.

JOHN CLARKE.

Col. John Fothergill to major Haynes.

MUCH HONOURED SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 206.

I Received yours with the inclosed copyes last night, by which I understand, that the olde cavalier enemie beginnes to stirre in severall partes, which newes hath much troubled my spirit; but I hope that as the lord hath hitherto delivered you, soe he will owne us still, by discovering all their wicked plotts, and preventing all their hellish intentions.

Sir, I have desired the honest men in this towne to gett their armes fixed, that in case any disturbance doe fall out, we may be in what readines may bee, to oppose it; but truly, sir,

in regard I have not received as yet any comission, or other instructions to his highnes, then what I have from your selfe, I cannot be in soe good a posture, as the state of affaires seame to require; but, God willing, I shall not faile to be as serviceable as I can, according to such instructions, as I shall receive from his highnes the lord protector. A. D. 1654.

Sir, the assise for this countie beginnes at Burie to morow, where, God willing, I intend to be, and to consult with mr. Clarke and some other honest and trustie men, what we had best to doe for the preservation of the peace and fastie of this countie. Blessed be God, all things are quiet heerabouts, and I hope will soe continue. In great hast I rest

Sudburie, March 14, 1654.

Your verie humble servant,

JOHN FOTHERGILL.

The superscription,

*For his much honoured freind, major Haynes,
at his quarters in Colchester.*

W. Rogers to the protector.

Hereford, March 14, 1654.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

I Have received all your orders, and have beene in Monmothshire, and am raising the Vol. xxiv.
regiment, which I hope wil be speedily ready, besides two troopes of horse, that we p. 224.
are raising. All honest men (though never so differing) are ready to unite and engage against this common enemy.

I have sent two letters to your highness, to let you understand what condition we are in here. We want armes and ammunition. I am at extraordinary charges in raising these men, and sending messengers and spies abroad, that I might be furnished with intelligence, which is the guide of all our actions. And through the assistance of God I shall lose no time to be servicable to your highness and the publique good of this place and nation. All the men I have listed are upon duty.

The enemy is not yet up neere me, but a scout of mine (an honest man) being out in the night in the country, hearing a party of horse coming, gott behind a quick headg, and hidd himselfe; who, as they past by, heard them speake these words one to another; gentlemen, if this designe will hitt, we shal be gallant blades. Another answered, it would hitt.

I have this morning secured some of the most dangerous suspected persons of this county. I hope, I shall give account of my trust in these partes, and shall ever remaine

Your highness most faithfull and humble servant,

W. ROGERS.

The workes of this garrison neede some present reparation,
for which I expect your highness order.

W. Gough to W. Malyn, esq;

MUCH HONOURED SIR,

I Shall make bold to communicate unto you what hath lately happened in these partes. Vol. xxiv.
On tuesday last, about two in the morninge, captain Pike, post master of Crewkerne, p. [208.]
gave us an allarme at Ilminster, assuringe us, that M. G. Wagstaffe, C. Penruddock, and neer a thousand more of the late king's party, were inbodied at Sarum, where they tooke the judges, and did much mischief, and were then come to Sherburne; whereupon I hastid to this towne, where I mett col. Pine, col. Ceely, sir Thomas Wroth, C. Georges, major Sampson, C. Barker, and diverse gentlemen more, with a considerable company of such as were formerly of the militia; and indeed, for ought I could discerne, they came with very cheerfull resolutions to engage their all against this upstart crew, and had the Lord seen it good, our strength in reason had been more than sufficient to have accomplit their utter downfall; but I had not been long here, before I saw my hopes of their ruine quite frustrated, which I must very much impute to the unhandsome carriage of C. Gorges towards col. Pyne and some others, refuseinge to joyne with col. Pyne in any thinge relating to this present business, C. Gorge takeinge upon him the charge of the towne, comissioned thereunto by the magistrates thereof (as he is pleased to say) whereupon arose this great

A. D. 1654. inconvenience; C. Ceely with divers officers and soldiers, to the number of 40 or thereabouts, being resolved to alarm the enemy, who then lay at Chard (or at least more perfectly to learne their number and condition) cominge to the outguard of the towne was denied passage by the guard, they alleadging, that C. Gorge hath soe given order, that none must passe without his licence; whereupon wee halted there about a quarter of an hour, and in the mean time sent to know of C. Gorge, what his meaninge was, who then gave a ticket for our passage, which C. Ceely tooke soe unkindly, he being the older colonell, that he refused to march by the other's leave; and by this meanes we were altogether disappointed of what in probability might have been easily effected; I meane the ruine of our enemies, who were not in number above 160, as I am since very certainly informed; and in a very trembling posture. Their horse are many of them very good, but the riders very ill accoutred for the most parte; yet notwithstandinge these discouragements, their purpose is, to pursue to morrow with what horse they can make, and, if possible, joyne with the sheriffe of Devon (to whome they have wrytten to that purpose) that soe they may, being united, if not take them, at least disperse them; which I heare they begin to doe already. Truly, sir, I am hartily sorry, to see these divisions, that are amongst us; and truly though I cannot say that C. Pyne and the others fully comply with the present government; yet I am verily perswaded, that they were very harty in this present worke; and I am sure have been formerly very good instruments for the securing these partes, and for any publique good; and therefore I cannot but be troubled, that C. Gorge, a man but of yesterday, who hath not soe fully borne testimony against the cavaleirs in former times, should soe much insult and greive the spirits of those gentlemen. I observed further yesterday, that C. Gorge tooke some distaste at C. Bovett, for that he, upon the alarm, entered the castle of Taunton, and secured it with some of the company, that formerly served him in the militia, and refused to turne out his men againe, and deliver the possession thereof to C. Gorges. Indeed my opinion is, that what lieutenant col. Bovet did was meerly for the preservation of the place, without any sinister end; and to my knowledge was exceeding forward to further any designe against the enemy, and to reconcile divisions here. But I must begg your pardon for this trouble: at present I shall not much enlarge, but desire, that if opportunity be offered, you will be pleased to acquaint my lord herewith, which, with the tender of my reall and hearty respects to you, is all at this time from,

Taunton, March 14, 1654.

Sir, your most obliged servant,

WILLIAM GOUGH.

The superscription,

*For my much honour'd friend William Malyn, esq;
secretary to his highnes the lord protector, these
present, at Whitehall.*

SIR,

Being newly come to this towne with 4 troopes of our regiment, where major general Disbrowe will meete to morrow, I thought it necessary for your helping us with intelligence in our pursuance of the enemy to open your letter. I have honestly sealed it up againe.

Shaftsbury, March 15, 1654.

Your humble servant,

WILLIAM BOTELER.

Col. W. Crowne to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 211.

IN regard wee discover daily designeings still against this garrison, and that upon monday last in the night was the time, when they should have sett upon us (as by our intelligence wee understood) I have adventured to call in my owne company, for the better strengthening of the place, and quarter them upon the cheifest malignants here; for we were before even quite tired out with duty, our number being soe small, your other parte of your troope being not come in; but we expect them this night. The rest of the gentlemen (the officers) are unwilling to raise their companies without speciall order from your highnes, not knowing where to quarter them, for want of money. Wherefore I humbly begg wee may receive your instructions herein. The inclosed the gentleman hath desired mee to send to his friend, for to procure his enlargement; which I have first sent it for you to peruse, and to doe as your highnes shall thinke fitt. I having noe more to give you an accompt of since my last. I remayne

Your highnes most humble servant to bee commanded,

Salop, March 14, 1654.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

*Copy of a letter from Mr. W. Prideaux to Almao Juanuah, chancellor of the
posseco-office in Mosco.*

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

UPON saturday last, when I received from the emperor's princely hands his letter to his highnesse lord protector of the commonwealth of England, &c. and that your lordship told me from his majesty, that I should have in wryting an answer to such wrytings, as I had given you for his majesty, and returne by the same way I came, I then answered, that my order from his highnesse was to returne over land by Riga, with such convenient expedition as I could; to which your lordship replied, that I should speake no more of that matter there. Soe it is that I see noe tyme limitted, when I shall have that his majesty's answer; and to keepe me here in this country before the 1 of September next, that shippes departe from Archangell, cannot be but much displeasing to his highnesse lord protector. I have thought good to advertise your lordshipp thus much, which I esteem it, as if I did write immediately to his imperial majestie, and to desire you to consider of it, and to lett me have your answer in writing, to serve me for my discharge with his highnesse. So auguring your lordshipp the completion of felicity, I remayne, &c.

Mosco, March 14, 1654.

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
p. 215.

Col. Wade to general Disbrowe.

SIR,

I HAD a mettinge yesterday with captain Nicholas concerninge the raiseinge of forses for the defence of our county, to which I answered him, that there is noe doubt, if authority be given for that purpose, and provision made for accomodation, force will be speedily raised; and therefore if you thinke it will be with anie advantage to the publicke, noe doubt by God's assistance men of a sufficient number shall be forthwith raised for the safe keepinge of Gloucester, whereby the horse heare may be spared for servis abroad. I came to Gloucester this day, beinge sent for by the mayor and aldermen of the citty, and am a puttinge the well affected of the citty in a posture of defence, which at present is foure hundred men. I doe thinke to goe into the forrest againe to morrow, to put things in the best condition possible. What you conceive me fitt or capable to doe, in order to the raiseinge of men, lett me have commaund and authority, and there shall be noe want in me. I conceive it were not amisse, if there were a forbearance of raising of those for the present, money being a precious thinge with you, and rawe iron a vendible comodity. Your forge is on worke. Thus, desireinge your answer to what you shall thinke fitt, I rest

Gloucester, March 14, 1654.

Your faithful servant,

JOHN WADE.

The superscription,

*To the right honourable general John Disbrowe
these be presented.
In his absence, to col. John Clarke, at Whitehall.*

Mr. J. B. to the protector.

March 14, [1654.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

YOUR highnes letter by the exprefs I received, and shall now as formerly render you an accompt of the guarrison at Hull. Itt is att present as to the officers and souldiers and the inhabitants in a very good condition; the blocke houses and fortifications much out of repaire, with the magazine; the greatest part of the traine useles; the carriages of most or all of the great peices being rott and destroyed; the magazine in that condition for want of repairing, as that little store there is can hardly be kept dry. A particular of the store (having not armes for 100 foote to spare) was presented in my last to your highnes, as also the charge was conceived these repaires would amount unto, wherein a particular request was made, that 200 l. might be speedily ordered for the most necessary repaires of that garrison, the which I humbly beg may be done. I know not what grounds of hopes the enemy may have for assuring themselves of the place. It was my endeavours, when I

Vol. xxiv.
p. 213.

was

A. D. 1654. was there, as well to enquire into the temper of the souldiery as their numbers and strength of the place; and if I may trust the engagements of men, they promised, not only all faithfullness, but diligence; and since I have not hearde the least to make mee suspect or believe the contrary, there is but few that is disatisfied with the present government in that place; the cheif is mr. Cann, whose removall, as I humbly conceive, and hinted as much to your highness, would be very necessary; hee doth disservice amongst the souldiery, his spirit not agreeing with the government. The charge of that I committed to major Elton during my absence, finding him to have a deputation from your highness for that purpose, and in truth one, who for his carriage, care and diligence, deserves encouragement, notwithstanding my care (soe much as my present civill employment will give me way) I shall not be wanting, learning weekly from them, and they from me. The number of common souldiers are only 500, which are sufficient for the present duty and service; but in time of danger the number must be doubled. I wish it may be with men from the army, and not by recruits, of which fort the greatest part of that garrison doth now consist, the officers having neither experience nor assurance of their faithfullness; which makes me humbly beg for the returne of two of the lord Lambert's companie, in lieu whereof, if your highness thinke it necessary, the like number of the recruits from thence shall be ordered. A place of soe great concernment is nott to be kept with men either unexperienced or unknowne; however, in obedience to your highness's commands, I have ordered the rayfing of our company under good officers. Whether or no the common soldiery prove soe, 'tis doubtfull. For preventing of any present designe, and for encouragement of our friends, and security of that place, I have ordered thirty horse thither, as not at all confyding in the recruits. My lord, I beg that 300 l. may be ordered for the most necessary repaires of the place, as the making of a cross bar to shutt over the mouth of the harbour; to prevent the running in of some vessels in a dark night, which may both fyer our owne ships, and land men on the Gainsom fyde, to the hazard of the towne. This damage prevented by this means, the towne will be very secure, if your daungers continue. Here is some gentlemen would raise a regiment of horse for the security of this county, if they had but authority for it. A settlement of militia would be very convenient in this county. A meeting of thursday night last uppon Hessa-moore by some gentlemen, which are fledd uppon it, and some apprehended, of which your highness will have a more particular account thereof from col. Lilburne. I am

Your highness's most humble servant,

J. B.

Col. James Berry to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 220.

WE have at last extorted this confession from captain Barker, and haveing made as much use of him as we can, we have sent him to you, together with mr. Whalley and two of his men. Their confessions you have by the post. We cannot but judge mr. Whalley guilty, because his two men were there, and himselfe at many meetings at John Cooper's house, particularly the friday before the randevous with the 2 Paldwins and some others. We hope you may get the truth from him. We have found the cart load of armes, which is according to the list inclosed. We hope your highnes will bestow them upon 5 troopes, who are much harrafed by the busines; or if you please to comand them for any service, we begg you would give us leave to price them, and allow us soe much in money. We shall endeavour, as we are able, to make further enquiry into the busines, and hope to apprehend more of the persons. We have sent mr. Whalley's examination, that you may finde wherein he varies; and thought it lesse inconvenient, that he should travaile soe farre, though guiltles, then you want an opportunity to trie him. We begg your pardon for this scrowle, and want of paper, and shall desire to be ever found

Your faithfull servant,

March 14, 1654.

JA. BERRY.

Examination of Mr. John Barker.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 219.

MR. John Barker of Halam, examined 14 March 1654. faith, he was at Southwell till about 10 of the clocke on thursday night last, from whence he went home to Halam, where he stayed till morning, and then he went again to Southwell. He was there by 7 of the

the clock, at W. Lambe's. There he stay'd till monday in the afternoon about 4 of the clock. Thence he went to Newmarket, where he stay'd till he was taken yesterday. He saith upon farther examination, that he was at Rufford on the Green, near the Pound, about one of the clock the said thursday night; and at that time there was captain John Cooper; and they said his brother since had been there, but was gone. There was also mr. Thomas Paldwin, and mr. Gregory Paldwin, and mr. Bins, and his man, at Dodworth, and one Robert Felton, of London, and a gentleman or two more. He saith, he met the cart coming away, and he heard some mention the throwing of them into the water, and one of the carters said, he could carry them back. He saith, he saw Hankin of Fernshild, as he came, and spake to him. He saith, he had a led horse, which was led by one Whelpedale.

JOHN BARKER.

This examination taken before
col. BERRY and capt. NEEDHAM.

*The examination of Mr. Penniston Whalley, of Screton, in the county of Nott.
taken March 14th, 1654.*

HE saith, he was at mr. John Cooper's house at Thurginton, on friday was sevensnight Vol. xxiv.
about two of the clock in the afternoon, where he stay'd till about five of the clock. p. [221.]
There was with him, mr. Cicil Cooper, one mr. Monnaxe, one Thomas Paldwin, one George Taylor, and one mr. Bins, all which he left there, when he went away. He saith, he walked in the garden with mr. Cooper only, and no other. He saith, he remembers not he was there before since Christmas. He saith, he was on thursday last at Barton in the Beans, at justice Sacheverell's. He came thither betwixt nine and ten, and stay'd there all night. He was at Nottingham from two of the clock till seven. He stay'd at several places, but was last at widow Dally's, where he stay'd till about seven of the clock, and then went to Barton as aforesaid.

Being asked, what he said to his servants, Simon and Edward, before he went, he saith, he had no discourse with them, but bid Ned go to his hedger, and bid his man Billings go to mr. Cooper, to ask for money. He saith, he knew nothing of his men's going out or coming out that night, nor the next morning. He saith, he hath not seen mr. Gregory Paldwin, who sojourned at mr. Cooper's, above once (whereas I say once, perchance it may be twice) in any house.

P. WHALLEY.

Memorandum,

There was nothing interlined, when this was subscribed.

March 14, 1654. Found in a barn at Fernesfield

- 54 Case of pistols.
- 16 Saddles, with furniture, whereof 3 are great saddles.
- 19 Pair of holsters.
- 2 Suites of good arms.
- 3 Head pieces.
- 1 Gantlet.
- 2 Buff coats.

Vol. xxiv.
p. [222.]

*The examination of John Baggelow servant to Mr. John Cooper, of Thurgaston,
taken the 14th day of March, 1654. before col. Berry and captain Needham.*

THIS examine saith, that on thursday last mr. Thomas Paldwin, mr. Gregory Vol. xxiv.
Paldwin, and mr. Scott, of Nottingham, came to his master's house, where they stay'd p. [214.]
until night; and this examine was called to go away with a cart loaden with 4 or 5 sacks, and two hampers of pistols and arms, to the green near Rufford abby. He accordingly went, and carried them thither, and there he spoke with his master, the said mr. John Cooper, who said to him, he could not tell what they must do with these things. He saith, he saw mr. Gregory Paldwin there at Rufford; but knows not whether he saw mr. Thomas Paldwin, or not. When he had been there a while, divers gentlemen being together, they said, they were betrayed, and some had cast their arms into the pond. But captain John Barker came up with another with him, and said, they should not throw them in the pond, but carry them back; and then this examine and Richard Newball drew back the cart

VOL. III.

3 Q

to

A. D. 1654 to Fernhall, where Newball intreated one Hankin to put them up in a barn. He believes Hankin knew nothing of the business, and there they were left. He saith, the Paldwins and mr. Scott were used to meet at his master's house, and mr. Whalley was twice or thrice there, when the Paldwins were there. He said, mr. Paldwin and some others dined at his master's house on friday was severnnight, and mr. Whalley came after dinner, or the next day, but stay'd not.

+
JOHN BAGGELOW his mark.

Capt. George Bishop to secretary Thurloe.

MR. SECRETARY,

Vol. xxiv.
p. [215].

I HAD given you an account of the enemy's action at Salisbury by mundaye's post, had hee not departed (notwithstanding I charged him otherwise myselfe) whilst wee were speakeing with some friends, and looking after others, whoe came thence that day, and were amongst them. But I suppose you had the particulars therof as soon as wee, only I presume it may not be unnecessary, if the post have a checque given him, least in other cases of danger, which may happen, hee serve us foe againe, to the prejudice of the commonwealth.

Monday night wee heare the enemy quartered at Shaftsbury some, and at Sherborne others, and foe in parties at divers places, to inforce their numbers what they can in that disaffected county of Dorset, then which there is not one greater in England. Tuesday they were at Dorchester, broke upp the gaoles, and horsed the jayle birds; and it is sayd, that from thence they went to Weymouth, wher they reported they expected the landing of some amunition and armes from France, though I rather thinke it is (if it bee foe) to looke amunition in such a port towne. For their numbers wee cannot get a particular account, all wee have being from travaylers; and you know how uncertayne for the most part is such intelligence. Ther were not 100 horse of them in Salisbury, and yet report brought them 1000. They are sayd now to bee by some 2000, others 1000, some 500; they have noe particular rendezvouzes, but disperse themselves, and lye beyond measure. Wee alsoe heare, that many went with them out of Sherborne and other places, and that in and aboute Taunton honest men are imbodying together against them; and from one of Road, nere Phillip's Norton, understand that by this tyme, as hee supposeth, 300 horse of friends are ther together, whoe hee sayth intend to march after the enemy. And what hath been here done, you have had and will have account of from other hands; though I must tell you, with that eye you cannot understand nor judge impartially of the condition of this place. I shall say noe more, because we have lately seen an unexpected issue on our representations of danger, which were noe dreames or fancys. Wee know, what wee wrote, though the hand hath been turned against us. This rising wee hope is only the residue of the plotters discovered by Stradling, whoe fearing apprehension and other just reward, have desperately put themselves into this hostility; though wee feare it hath a larger extent, not only because of the universall laying of their designs, but in regard the monday's post is not yet come hither, nor any newes of him. One from the Devizes assures us, that major Boteler with four troopes marched out thence yesterday at 7 in the morning towards the enemy; but of these things I suppose you have a particular account; and therefore I shall not add further, but that I am,

Sir, your assured friend and servant,

Bristoll, March 14, 1654.

GEO. BISHOP.

Mr. J. Nicholas to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxiv.
p. [216].

I Received your letter of the 12th instant about 11 a clocke this daye, and shal be as diligent in the executing your commands therin as possible I can. I heard of noe insurrection any where, till last night very late. The affizes, that was this weeke held in our country, hath somthing hindered our leavies; but I hope this night we shall be five hundreded together. I shall endeavour to secure Trevor, Williams, Morgan of Machen, and some others, who I heare are at this present together at Morgan's house. If the Lord doth bleffe us in this designe, I feare noe danger in this country. My lord, I'll assure you, whatever is done by your highnes, the adverse party have the knowledge of it before us, and have better intelligence in all things, than wee. I have confered with major Wade and other friends

fiends in the Forrest, and they are very cordiall for your highnes. I have done my en-
deavours to perswade them to raise what men they could. Money is the greatest hinderance
with them; but the least orders from your highnes with commissions to Wade will presently
raise one thousand men. This he hath engaged to me. I shall not further trouble your
highnes, but to assure you, I shall be as vigilant and carefull as I am able. I am

Your highnes most faithfull and humble servant,

Chepstoll Castle, March 14, 1654.

JO. NICHOLAS.

Col. W. Boteler to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

THIS morning col. Dove is come hether from the enemy upon his parole: he left Vol. xxiv.
them neere Evill, and saith, he thinks them to be above 300 in number. Now, my p. [217.]
lord, though I know 'twould be of sad consequence, if wee assaulting them should be
worsted, yet, my lord, I hope your highnes will easily pardon me, being I shall freely
adventure my selfe upon the good providence of the Lord, who I knowe will owne us;
and I am perswaded, succeed us in this busines. And indeed, my lord, I cannot with any
confidence stay here, nor looke the country in the face, and let them alone. I doubt not
but to give your highnes a speedy good account of this matter. I shall be this night at
Shaftsbury, and then send to your highnesse againe. The judges I have set at liberty
here, and they were like men that dreamt to see us so suddenly here. I shall take care
of their safe passage to London, whether they desire to come. Col. Dove saies, that Mack,
that lieutenant Heely sent up, is come off but as a spy, and desires me to informe so
much. I am, my lord,

Your highnes most dutifull servant,

W. BOTELER.

From Salisbury, upon my march towards Shaftsbury,
14 March, 9 a clock in the morning.

If I heare any of our freinds coming towards us, I shall delay falling upon them, unless
I see a very probable opportunity.

Col. Barkstead, lieutenant of the Tower, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Earnestly desire your care of these two papers I delivered you yesterday. I am very Vol. xxiv.
confident of the honesty of my warder, and have therefore permitted him to goe once p. [218.]
more to mr. Wiseman with the small note from Read, the coppie of which is inclosed.
His returne will not bee till betweene one or twoe. What Wiseman returns, I shall, as
soone as I have taken a coppie, send it to you, and then desire your further directions. The
warder told mr. Read, that he thought mr. Wiseman, as himselfe, was mistaken in dating
his letters the 13th of Feb. he told him noe; what was done now should have beene per-
formed that tyme. I am,

Sir, your affectionate friend and servant,

Tower, London, March 14, 1654.

JO. BARKSTEAD.

Wiseman who was chirurgeon to sir Ralph Hopton, from the begining of the warre, and
was by him about 7 or 8 years since recommended to Charles Stuart, to be chirurgeon to his
body, was taken at Worcester, and afterwards getting away hath lived in the Old Bayley
at the signe of the King's-head, ever since in great practise.

DEARE SIR,

My service to all. Mr. Nedd G. is well, and all the rest.
Believe me, that I am not timorously fearfull, but a providential care, you believe, ought
to be alwayes prepared for, especially by mee, whoe am subject to such extreame fitts of the
chollicke, and other diseases, that now in health, I ought to prepare against sicknesse, if it
should attempt to assaize on me. It is the councill of the Wiseman, but now that you and
my good friend are acquainted by whome I received the 5 l. I am much at rest. I receive
not only a cordial by him, but that which is better than any physicke, which is, that you
are confident, my disease in the head will be cured, without entering into a course of phy-
sicke,

A. D. 1654. sicke, which I am heartily glad of, and pray for it, as for my owne soule. I pray you informe me how the health is of all friends, and what else you thinke fitt to be imparted to

Feb. 14, 1654.

J. B.

Your servant for ever.

A true coppie taken by
RICHARD BARTON.

The 14th day of March, 1654.

The information of John Griffiths, of Stanwardine of the Field, taken before Humphrey Mackworth, esq; and Jonathan Rowley, gentleman, upon oath.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 223.

WHO saith, that he coming upon wednesday night, the 7th day of this instant March, he having a horse, would have putt him up in the common stable at fir Thomas Harris's, and the doore of the stable was locked; and this informer was told, that the said stable was full of horses, that he could not putt up his horse there; and saw, that the best stable was full of good horses, and in the cow-house he saw three in one, and three in another, and two in another, three being sadled, and the five unsadled.

JOHN GRIFFITHS,

Judge Aske and mr. recorder Steele to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 224.

WE knowe not how you might approve of the message sent this morning by mr. Godfrey touching our having a troope of horse from hence, to be with us at least until the other come you have ordered out of Kent; but to us, the more we consider how much the thinge may be of great consequence, not only to our security, but to the publique service, the more we cannot but insist upon the desire of it. Wee believe by the appearance at the assizes of the sheriffe of Surry's men, together with our owne, there will goe this morning out of Southwarke at least one hundred horse; which the enemy, without all scruple, knowing soe long before of the day of our going, will endeavour to surprize, which may be easily done with a few pistoles, the sheriffs men being not armed with any such weapons, and being sent in from gentlemen in the country, who we know not what affections they may be of. Sir, we suppose some troopes lye in Southwarke, which may with ease be procured, if his highnesse please to command it; and though noe forces have visibly appeared in these parts, yet doubtless their affections being the same, they will as suddainly appeare as at Salisbury, if an opportunity as fairely offer it selfe. And truly, to our apprehensions, except wee have a good guard, as well to attend us thither, as there, there will be a booty well pleasing to them. We shall stay this morning in Southwarke, at mr. Warcup's, the baylie of Southwark's house, as long as conveniently wee may, till wee heare from you. Pardon this trouble from, sir,

March 14, 1654.

Your affectionate friends and humble servants,

RICHARD ASKE.
WILLIAM STEELE.

Montg.

Examination of Edward Vaughan.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 225.

EDward Vaughan of Tredezim, in the said county gentleman, examined saith, that the examine was at his father's house the 6th of March 1654, and went not from the said house any way, that he remembers, that day. This examine saith, that the 7th day of March, 1654, he went with his brother Arthur Vaughan to Kanamunoch, and from thence to Penny-parke in Masbrooke, unto mr. Ralph Kynaston's, where were about 12 men, which the examine said he knew, as Edward Thurston, and Edward Jones, and some of the others he knew by sight. And this examine said, that he heard then no discourse of any of the persons about any plot. But this examine further saith, that as he went from Kannamunoch homewards, one Arthur Garner asked the examine, when the wedding would be, and the examine said, it was time enough about half a year hence; because he understood he had meant his own wedding. And on his way when

when word was, his brother Arthur, there passed some discourse; and the said Arthur told this examine, that there was a plot to raise men against the present government. And this examine saith, that his brother Arthur told this examine, that mr. Ralph Kynaston had asked him to be in the said plot; and that the said plot was a plot throughout the whole nation, and that Ralph Kynaston had told him, there would be a rendezvous in Salop by sir Thomas Harris's house. And the said Arthur told this examine, he would not go unto the said rendezvous. And this examine saith, that the day after his brother Arthur bid him to tell the same unto his father, and this examine did so the same day; and farther saith not.

ED. VAUGHAN.

THOMAS LLOYD,
HUGH PECIE,
J. KYNASTON,
THOMAS NICCOLLS.

Edward Vaughan afore said, examined upon oath the day afore said, saith, that he hath heard, that mr. Ralph Kynaston was in the said plot; and also saith farther, that it was reported in the country, that John Penchin, of Kanadimoie, in the county of Montgomery, gentleman, was in the said plot. And he farther saith, that dame Humphreys, of Kanamonocho, told this deponent, upon saturday the 9th of March, 1654, that he heard a pistol shot off, and as he heard, it was one Billinger, a scout from Swiney, and it was about midnight when the pistol was shot, and it was shot against one Griffith Pugh, brother to dame Pugh, of Colnerin, as this deponent hath heard by Edward Edwards, servant to mr. Ralph Kynaston.

This deponent farther saith, that Davie Githin was reputed by the country to be in the said plot. This deponent farther saith, that the said Edward Edwards told this deponent, that sir Arthur Blany was at Ralph Kynaston's house upon thursday at night the 8th of March, 1654, and that the said Ralph Kynaston then spoke to the said sir Arthur Blany, and wished him to go home. And the said Edward farther told this deponent, that the said sir Arthur had about 60 or 80 horse with him.

This deponent farther saith, that the said John Williams, of Ufton Collier, and Reece Lewis, as he believes, on the 7th of March, 1654, at Kanamonocho, were with some others, at the house of dame Homfreys, and that there was then one captain Edward Kynaston, of Salop, and they discoursed about a cocking.

This deponent farther saith, that the said Edward Edwards told this deponent, that some of the party, with sir Arthur Blany, being at mr. Ralph Kynaston's house, after he persuaded them to go home, would have left some pistols at the said Kynaston's house, but he refused to receive the said pistols; and then he offered them unto the said Edward Edwards, who also refused them; and the party said, will you cast them into a ditch? and he said, no; but said, secure you your pistols, and let your pistols secure you; and farther saith not.

ED. VAUGHAN.

THOMAS LLOYD,
HUGH PECIE,
J. KYNASTON,
THOMAS NICCOLLS.

Edward Vaughan, being examined before commissary general Reynolds, William Browne, esq; justice of the peace for the county of Salop, col. Mackworth, and captain Price, this 20th of March 1654, at Shrewsbury, doth acknowledge and stand to this his deposition, and what is laid down in his former deposition is true.

ED. VAUGHAN.

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Understand by yours, that our old enemies are still at worke. It the less troubles me, because 'tis with them, for though the Lord reproveing us by them should awaken every one to see what there is in us, that might be a provocation to him, yet am I confident the Lord will witness against them, and not suffer his righteous cause, which he hath so signally owned, to be subject to their malice. The Lord may please by this means fully to see the evil of our divisions, which how great a tryal and trouble it may bring upon us, if the Lord prevents it not, is very apparent. Wee are heere under expectation of the same disigne to be driving on, though nothing at present appearing more then some few turning tories, rather than to transplant. I wish Wales be not too much neglected, and Chester, in both which places there is so much of malignancie. I trust wee shall yet find the Lord's goodness to us in our union. I cannot see there is any appearance, but that you may be as confident

Vol. III.

3 R

of

A. D. 1654. of us, as of any partie of men, though I know very well, that our harts are in the hands of the Lord, and can only be kept in peace and union, so long as he is pleased to owne us. If wee may be kept from provoking him by sin, I care not. I hope you will speed away my brother Cromwell, which is the desire of

March 14, 1654.

Your affectionate freind and servant,

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

SIR,

I am very confydent ad. gen. Allen's confinement is of more inconveniency to his highnes and government, then his enlargement can be; besids I understand he hath ingaged not to act any thing to the disturbance of this government. I am confydent you may tak his word, and it seemes liberty on thos termes was offered to M. G. Harrison, &c.

N. Hole to col. John Clerke.

HONERED SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 241.

THIS is to give you an acount, that I have binn at Andover since I sawe youe yesterday at noone, and all things are very quiet in those parts. The enemy is gon towards Crewkhorne, and there thay ware last night, and have stoped the maill of letters. Ther is three tropps of our horse now in Saulsbury, which come from Bristow, and that way they are in pursuit of the enemies. I am now goeing to meet the generall at Nubery, to give him the inteligence. Sir, one captain Buttler, of Dorsetshire, whom thay askt to rise with, and thay depended upon him, but hee refused, and tould them, hee would not act aney thinge against the publicke. Allsoe in Dorsetshire, where thay expected 3 or 4 thousand, thay all refuse to rise with them. So I understand most of them are the scorn of the country. This I had from a gentleman, that came this morning from Saulsbury. I have not more at present, but that I am

Your most humble servant,

Basing-stoake, March 15, 1654.

NATH. HOLE.

H. Hatfell to col. John Clarke.

DEARE SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 239.

THIS evening I came to this place, and doe understand, that the generall quartereth this night at Amesberry; soe I hope to be with him in the morning timely. Just now is come in one post from Taunton, who came by the way of Crookehorne, and tells me, the enemy is gonn towards Cullamton and Tiverton, and intend, as 'tis supposed, for Cornwall; they are nowe less than two hundred. The same person tells me, that the country people came into Taunton neer 3000 men, to imbody themselves; but differrences arose about whoe should command; the most part of the gentry and others were for col. Pyne and Buffet; some fewe were for col. Gorges, and in dispute he left them. I suppose they may agree before any need wil be of them. My service to your good wife. To the father of mercies I commend you, and remayne

Your faythfull freind and servant,

Andover, March 15, 1654.

HENRY HATSELL,

My service to col. Rouse.

The mayle of letters comming upp is taken by the enemy.

The superscription,

*These for the honourable colonell John Clerke,
att the Admiraltie-Chamber in Whitehall.*

Lord chief justice St. John to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 242.

MY brother and my selfe returne our humble thankses to his highnes for his soe speedy promise for our safety. Cornet Chapman and quartermaster Lloyde, of captayne Lloyde's troope, came hither last night with the troope. I intreate your advise for the future. You know whether I was bound after the circuite; in relation to the drayning and otherwise,

JOHN THURLOE ESQ. &c.

249

otherwise, I shall much order my jorney as I shall be advised by you. I received an order A. D. 1654. from the company on tuesday, which desyres my meeting with mr. Gorges and others upon the place in order to the workes on the south side, and that not meeting in that and other respects may be verry prejudiciall. We goe to Thetford on monday, and shall make an ende there about fryday. Information from your selfe how busineses stande may fully informe me in these particulars. Sir, with my humble thanks for your last favours and expreffions of your care of me, I rest

Your most affectionate servant,

March 15, 1654.

OL. ST. JOHN.

General Disbrowe to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

I Came the last night to this place, and intended this day to be steering towards the Vol. xxiv. Devizes; but upon some intelligence from major Butler at Salisbury, I shall (God p. 240. willing) goe to Almesbury, and hope to be there by two of the clocke, in order to a conjunction with major Butler and the two troopes from Chichester, and after a few houres refreshment shall proceed, as I shall gett intelligence, which I have by all wayes layed out for, and as the Lord shall please to direct us. I understand that the high sheriffe of Wiltshire is gott from them, and reports them to be bounding (when he came away) for Evill, and thence for Bath and Wells. I doe not heare of any considerable accessse of force they have attained in all their progresse. I recomend your highnesse to the Lord's gracious protection, and remaine

Your highnes's humble servant,

Newbury, March 15, 1654.

JOHN DISBROWE.

I received both your highnesse's letters this night; the one by the old messenger about eight a clocke, and the other by captain Crescet, between 4 and 5 this morning.

Col. H. Haynes to secretary Thurloe.

Colchester, March 15, 1654. thursday morne.

HONOURED SIR,

SYNCE my last to his highnes of the 14th I received the inclosed from out of Suffolke, Vol. xxiv. which speake the same thing, and agreeing with my desire in my last to you, that some p. 243. commissions might be sent to col. Fothergill and major Moody; but I shall use noe more arguments in it. Our Essex gentlemen have in pursuance of their former resolutions ordered three companyes of sir Thomas Honywood's regiment, in and neare Colchester, to muster on fryday next, and major Templer hath appointed his troope to muster the same day at the same place, and purposeth to keepe them together 4 dayes, and then discharge them, in case he receive noe further orders, because the souldiers are to have but 4 dayes pay of the owners of the armes, and longer then they are payed they will not staye. I am confident this collection, if we should not have more, will secure theise parts. However they have also resolved, that on saturday following all the other companies of foote of both regiments, and the rest of the horse, should muster in their respective divysions, and I hope such an appearance wil be, as shall daunt the spiritts of those, who have purposed to putt in execution their designs in theise parts. All but the troope of horse are but to muster and returne home againe, if not continued by an order. I have secured many of those neare this towne, that have manifested any considerable affection to this wicked interest now in armes, as sir Edward Pierce, captain Browne, captain Lemon, captain Lynn. The other, which were taken in towne, I have delivered over to the mayor of the same, and he hath putt them in the towne hall. Yet am I afraid, he is too much their freind. Many more I should have sent for more remote, but that by reason of the troope being gone to Berry, which I appointed to be there last night, I had too fewe left to secure this desperate malignant towne. Please, I pray, sir, to direct me how I shall rid my hands of theise; for I should be in a great streight what to doe with them, in case I should be sent away. We get but fewe recruits; money runs soe lowe, that we are forced to goe uppon the trust to shoe our horses; and had not mr. Barington helped us to a small summe of 60 l. for the troope, which I sent to Bury, to beare their charges in their absence, they must of necessity

A. D. 1654. *cessity have taken free quarter, which I desire to avoyde. If we had but our warrants, we would have monyes in the counties, where we lye. Excuse this trouble, and be assured, whatever shall further occur, I shall carefully advise you, and remayne*

Your truly humble servant,

H. HAYNES.

S. Sanderfon to capt. Tho. Lilburne.

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 244.

I Thought fitt to give you notice of an information, that I had from an honest hand, well affected to this present government, concerning the cariage of some malignants in this county, who have bene for most parte of two weeks past wonderously busied in rydeing too and againe from the houses of disaffected persons, which hath given occasion to such as are of honest temper to feare something may be toward, (through wicked practices of men,) that may be of evil concernement. And because I heare and believe, that some inquisition after such hath bene made by you or some other, I doe herebye certifie the names of two in especiall, viz. mr. Willyams or Willyamson, of St. Helen Aukland, and mr. Joseph Crawdock of Harperley; two as eminent (by information) for evill words and actions against the present power, as any can be found, and such as do deserve to be as narrowly eyed, and as severely delt with, as any. I have, out of my real affection to the good of our nation, acquainted you with what I have bene creadably informed of, not having any thinge myselfe whereof in particular to accuse them. I leave the consideration of what I have written to your owne discretion, and remaine,

Sir, your very humble servant,

Framwellgate, March 15, 1654.

SA. SAUNDERSON.

The superscription.

*To my honored freind, capt. Tho. Lilburne,
these present.*

Mr. Robert Aldworth and mr. James Powell to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 245.

WE sent you an expresse tuesday night, it beinge to entreate his highnes for a commission to inable us to put our selves in a posture of defence in this tyme of danger; but doubtinge, that our packquet may miscarry, wee have sent this expresse, that wee might be sure of an answer, and alsoe to bringe us intelligence, how all thinges goe in the upper parts of the nation; for that we have not heard one word from London, neither have any post come from thence since saterday last. Wee are quiet here, soe is Wales, soe far as we heare; as alsoe Gloucester, Hereford, and Worcester. Those roagues, that rose up at Sarum, weare at Blanford on tuesday, where they proclaymed Charles the second, and reade their commission to take up armes for him.

'Tis credibly informed, the sheriffe of Devon is in a good posture to give them a checque, if they goe that way. They are gotten into the most rotten and corrupt places of the nation, as Blanford, Sherborne, and Evill, &c. but wee hope major Butler is in pursuite of them. Wee cannot here of any persons that are gone in to them out of these partes, and doe verely believe they will misse of those numbers they pretende to meeete withall.

Wee are upon the best means wee can for our defence, making the strongest guards we can, and have listd all our horse, and doe randevouze them this day, and have sent into the county of Somerset to acquainte them with our resolutions, and the posture wee are in, whom wee understand waite for a commission from his highnes, to inable them to raise the county. Sir, if our former letter to his highnes be miscarried, which was from the mayor, aldermen, and common counsell, then wee make it our humble request to your honour, that you would please to move his highnes for a commission to be granted to the cittie, as he doth to the cittie of London, or else to particular persons, accordinge to such a list as was given you at Whitehall, or as in his highnes wisdom shall be thought fit. The cittie is extreamly naked for want of armes, which hath beene taken away severall tymes heretofore. Therefore it wil be necessary, that a power be given to charge all persons of estate with proportions, accordinge to their respective abilities. Wee beleve, that you may have complaynts againe from some persons, that have beene frequently playntifes against the

the cittie, that differ upon the grounds of the quakers doctrines, that will labour to blast any undertaking; but if you please to speed a commission, wee hope to give you a good account, though we cannot shape thinges as we would, meerly for want of authoritie. And you shall be sure to receive a very faithfull intelligence from us from tyme to tyme, as any thinge shall occur fitt for your notice. This is all at present from

Your very humble servants in all love and faithfullnes,

Bristoll, this 15 Martis, 3^d clocke, 1654.

RO. ALDWORTH,
JAMES POWELL.

At this instant wee heare all thinges are well at London,
specially at Whitehall, which doth much rejoyce us.

Mr. Ed. Winflow to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

THE injunction you laid upon me at my departure constraines me to put pen to paper, that you may have an impartial character of things, even of all our weighty transactions since our arrival at Barbados. And though I know I act a part in obedience to his highnes and your commands, that never profited any man, wherein if a man deals ever so faithfully, yet once discovered, he becomes an object of revenge; nevertheless I shall trust God and you therewith, and doe what I doe with that sincerity, as shall beare me out before the most high God, and not spare the discovery of any thing may conduce to the benefit or detriment of his highnes and the commonwealth.

Sir, when I wrote to you from Portsmouth, I told you, how easly that soare was cured

Ven. Pen

betweene V. and P. whose demeanor mutually towards every other at sea was sweet and hopefull; but the last of these two gentlemen is too apt to be taken with such conceits; but I trust all will be well; onely I feare, that going hence without our stores, some occasion will arise of disturbance between the land and sea forces. The Lord God prevent it in much mercy. I onely speake my feares, but shall endeavour against it with all my might; but we have touched soe much upon supplies in our general letter to his highnes (and noe more thereto is requisite) as I shall forbear any further thereabout.

When we came to Barbados, which was the 29th of Jan. wee found all things out of order upon the place: our English merchants neglected, a free trade entertayned with strangers; and though a seisure was made some tyme before we came upon some strangers estate, as trading contrary to the statute, and the governor's assistance required, it was by him referred to a tryall at comon law, where all the attorneys of the court were taken up for the strangers, and none could be procured for the state; but the English merchants, that pleaded the state's cause, did it thoroughly, being sufficiently able. Yet nevertheles, though the act of the 3d of October 50, which you sent with us, and the other of 9th of October 51, were both pleaded, the jury found for the strangers against parliament and state, grounding all upon the articles of Barbadoes. Hereupon there was great joy and rejoycing on the one side, but the poore English merchants forced to send some of their principals to stop their hands, which hindered many thousand pounds worth of goods from coming hither, not being regarded, who lay here, and spent themselves to the ruine of some of them. On the contrary, the Dutch were courted, and highly prized, and sent home in a triumphant manner, to invite them freely to the trade of Barbados; by which means many more of them are expected before the end of May next. And truly, unless we can leave a ship here to make seisure of them, as they come in, his highnes friends are confident, the new commissioners will not be able to carry on their worke. All our

Venable

the militia

hope is, that V having new molded o: zx; yx; Gx i n, and we requiring their assistance,

Gov. of Barbados

it will be that way prevented. As for the TSHREARE. BS, ON, E, ON, Q, N, F, his demeanour herein hath been very strange and wary, leaving to himselfe in his owne

he

apprehension a starting hole in every case: V. R. refers this to a tryal at law, and yet when the aforesaid verdict was brought in, desires his protest may be entered against it, which accordingly is done, as he informes us; but when we came hither, and had made seizures upon the Dutch and other merchant strangers, who for the most part plead and swear licence from him, then to us he pleads the articles of Barbados against both the aforesaid acts, our instructions as commissioners (notwithstanding the oath he hath taken thereupon,

the protector

and his personal letter also from A) insomuch as in plaine tearmes he refuseth to joyne with us in commission in any thing belonging to the seizures by us made, upon any of them,

VOL. III.

3 S

or

A. D. 1654 or in any commissions, instructions, declarations, &c. thereabouts. And when we demand reason, he tells us, his hand was to the articles of the place; and therefore cannot give it against them. The skippers sometimes, yea for the most part, swear they had not traded, but by his leave to trade; he denies not but he gave them free leave to trade, but in the tail of all he tells them, if they trade against the laws of England, at their peril and fortune be it; insomuch as now they complaine exceedingly of him, and one of them hath produced a lycence under his hand and scale, whereof a true copy is sent herewith; but I feare the great gifts he is said to have received from them, have been a snare unto him. 'Tis strange to see how generally they dote upon the Dutch trade, the English merchants protesting they will give more for a worle comodity to the Dutch, than for a better to themselves; soe that you may hereby guesse, how unwelcome we are, for that we made seisure of them. And indeed the counsell and assembly were very much grieved at it, and at our coming hither, some of them flew out against col. Muddiford, as the cause of all this, and stick not to call him traytor to the island, insomuch as some of us were necessitated to excuse him; but the very truth of it is, no man hath more closely adheared to us, and so much furthered our designe, as he; nor is any man able, he being master of more reason than half the island, if not all; which is no small crime in other parts, as well as here, especially amongst persons of ordinary education. He was the man, that perswaded the assembly, being their speaker, to give the sixty horse to his highness for the present expedition: he convinced them, how good it was for them to lett us beate up our owne drums for men, telling them, they were all undone, if they did it not with cheerfullness; for, said he, if the commissioners hold but up their fingers, all our servants will leave us; and then we are undone indeed. Briefly, the gentleman settts himselfe to the utmost, to see how he may endeare himselfe to his highness; how he may recover his lost reputation; and for this also he is not a little envied.

And whereas you told us of a great parcell of sugar was ready for our use, which was due upon the prizes taken by sir Geo. Ascue, we found not a penny in readyness, but abroad in such hands, as were not well affected for nothing; having had the use of large sums for these three yeares, and have upon that foundation raised fine estates, which they are so loath to part withall, as I feare you will find them to be most ill affected, when they either pay, or must have those debts leaved upon their estates, which must be forthwith done to discharge our engagement. The reason wherefore col. Morris will not goe with us, is, because he hath so lovely an estate, which he fears may be seized for some other debts, after he is gone. At first he told us, he hoped we would forgive him a small debt he owed the state, in regard of former good services he had done them, and losses sustained for them. To this we seemed willing, provided he went freely, knowing how necessary an instrument he might prove. This we found to be twenty six thousand nine hundred weight of sugar. Afterwards he told us in plaine terms, if we would give him an hundred thousand weight of sugar, that so he might pay his debts, and leave his estate cleere to his wife, then Lewis Morris would spend his blood for us. We told him, it was beyond our commission; and general Venables told him, if he should offer up his commission, he durst not accept it, because it was sent by his highness, who expected so much service from him; besides what he demanded was as much as all the field-officers of the army had; and it would make them thinke they were very much undervalued. After all this he came to me and said, there was another way, whereby we might enable him to goe with us, and preest me to move it to general Venables, and the rest, viz. the people of this island, (saith he) never look for pay for their quartering the soldiers. Now if we would bestow that on him, it would serve his turne. This I told him I would move, at his request, but was sure, that the general and commissioners more prized their honour, than to do it. So this we rejected also; and the truth is, he confesseth he never was where we intend first to pitch and sett downe; so at last he told us, he would conceale his intention, and march his men on board the ship, for which we gave him thanks; but all these things are private as yet; but the commissioners of the prize-office have summoned him to pay in his debt to the state, or shew cause. The truth is, he prizeth himself at so high a rate, as if the expedition could not goe on without him, which made some of us in a loving way tell him, we should be glad of so experienced an instrument as he was; but withall let him knowe, our trust and relyance was not on him, but on God; and if the Lord would be pleased to use us as instruments in his right hand, and owne us as such, which we hoped he would, we doubted not, but we should be able to give a good account of our proceedings; and thus stands the case betwixt him and us.

As for the 1500 musketts we are promised we should receive here (which I ever wanted faith to believe) 'tis credibly reported, that about six weeks before our arrival (information came hither from London of our intended voyage, and that they were appointed for our service) by way of anticipation they were disposed of, insomuch as we had very few of them, as we mentioned in our general letter to his highness; but a great fear seems to be upon them, lest their servants should rise, when the fleete is gone, because so many of their freemen goe with us; and if things be not better ordered, before we depart, as

to the safetie of the place, they most justly feare it; for all places of trust are disposed off by favour, and not by a sounde judgement; for few active able men are in power, that may prevent such a mischief, or provide for their safetie; and I hope it will be placed, I mean the military power, in such hands as will doe both: they have 1500 horse, viz. the island, whereof the one half of them may be brought to service. The riches of the island far exceeds England's apprehension, the Dutch having hitherto reaped all the effects of the peace; and if we lay not a command upon the militia to be aiding to the commission-office, I verily believe, when we are gone, we shall have them stopt by an injunction from the governor, and the cases referred to the common law; and my reason is, because these words, or the like, have many times come from him; what serves my power for, I received first from the councill of state, which was afterwards renewed againe, and since confirmed by his highness under the broad seal in July last; and since that by letter, as governor of this island; besides all this, he had his power from the prize-office in England, and is all this nothing? To which he hath received many and sufficient answers; but I perceive not, that he is satisfied; and for their tryals at law, 'tis worth your observation, the laws of this place are generally made in favour of the debtor and the delinquent, whereas in other places the law gives every man the possession of his owne, &c. and this is the complaint of many of their owne to us, who seeme to groane under the burthen of it.

'Tis true, that at the request of the gentlemen of the island, when we had spent many days in debate concerning the present expedition, to perswade them by all the arguments we could use, what gayners they above all men would be thereby, yet after all we were forced to bluster, and let them knowe, that general Venables, whose carriage therein, and soe all along, deserves a good testimony, was generalissimo of all the English in America, and soe of this island; and so he had command of all their forts and forces; and this became effectually, and upon this they condescended to the beating up our drums, nay pray'd us to do it, and raise our men ourselves. And since they must be weakened by the losse of soe many men, and quartering of soe many soldiers, they pra'd us to mediate for them with his highness, to give the Dutch licence to bring thither goods of their owne growth, of their owne manufacture, horses, and negroes, as in our general letter; but I thought it my duty, though I am tedious therein, to lett you understand the spirit of the place, that so his highness and the right honourable the counsell, to whom I pray you present the remembrance of my most humble duty and hearty service, may the better knowe how to demean themselves towards them. Yet truly, sir, withall take notice, they are great sufferers by us at present, and therefore we may and doe beare with them in many things; and I shall be glad to heare, that his highness is sensible of it, so as the people here may see his care of and for them some way or other.

Our want of more commissioners is very great. We are like to have little assistance
captain Butler

from PN: cs. OE: GYRE, though we all perswade ourselves he is very honest; but hope, yea perswade ourselves, he will take with the better side in case of difference in judgement. I beseech you, in case any be sent, let us have men of such principles, as will neither scruple to give or take an oath. For my part, I looke upon an oath as an ordinance of God, and as an essential part of government, the very bond of societys; yea so necessary, as without it the magistrate will not be able determine betweene man

G. Pen

and man. But if this particular be spoken of, I shall lose J. from whom I have and doe receive much love, and owe him also a great deale of respect for the well performance of his trust. However after I had spoken as full to him as I have written about it, I never heard more of it. We have mett with the Dutch governor of New Netherland, with three ships under his command: he is commander in cheife of all the parts in America, under the states command. This man's business was to settle a faire trade between the Netherlands and this place; but we spoiled the sport. He hath bin under the embargo ever since we came; and the rather because he told us, he had business with the Spanish plantations, and we are in more feare of him for the discovering our raw and defective forces, than all the world besides. And yet if ever those provided come to us, we shall be gayners by the same, so as we be settled before they come; but don Alonzo is not worthy the name of an ambassador, if by advise to Dunkerke he hinder not those from ever coming to our hands; and yet he shall doe no more then God will lett him.

This Dutch governor undertooke to pleade the cause of his countrymen, and hath our answer in writing; and if I can gett it copied out, I will now send them; for what with drawing the general letter, and writing and copying my owne to his highness and your selfe, I am brought behindhand more than all the rest. Major general Haynes desired me to entreate you to remember his duty to his highness and his service to yourselfe; but to tell you, he will not write a line to England, till we have engaged our enemies. I hope, sir, that my salary, according to promise, is settled upon the exchequer, and that you will send us some very able ministers. I beseech

A. D. 1654.



I beseech you consider the place we intend by God's blessing to settle upon, the many townes built upon it, besides the many citties, and each must be quitted and resettled by us; and truly how to doe lesse than settle a minister in each, I know not; only entreate my lord to remember, that the settlement of the protestant religion is one of the grounds he goeth upon. Sir, I have been very tedious in my writing to yow; and if it be a fault, I pray you deale plainly with me; but I did it purposely, that his highnes might understand the place as fully as if he had beene here; and upon that account I rather chose to write three words too much, than one to little. I shall be glad to heare of your perfect recovery. Oh! what would we give, and how do we long to heare from England of the conclusion of the parliament with his highnes; and soe what settlement is made in the nation. I beseech you, when you have occasion to write and send to us, let us not be strangers to England's condition; but impart such news to us, as the tyme affords. I beseech you also present my humble duty to the lord Richard and the lord Henry; and let me beg one further favour, that you will be pleased to doe the like to the lord St. John, my deare friend. I hope you have seated the lord chiefe baron long before this tyme. His hearty prayers for you and yours, who desireth the like from you, and is,

Barbados, March 16, 1654.

Sir, your honor's most humble servant,

EDWARD WINSLOW.

J. Nicholas to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 254.

THIS day I received your's of the 14th instant, and in obedience to your comands I have drawne to this towne, and hereabouts, four hundred horse and foote, and upwards; out of which I shall send one hundred horse and dragoons to Gloucester, to obey such commands, as they shall receive from major Creed, or those that command the horse there, and the rest of this party to quarter in this town, being upon the borders of Hereford and Gloucestershire, to assist as occasion shall be offered, or as your highnes shall otherwise command. I have two hundred more of horse and foote in readines, lying in such places of this county, as I think most convenient for the safety therof. I have secured the most considerable persons, as the honest people did judge most dangerous in this county, in Chepstow-castle, according to your orders; and have already secured some horses and armes, and am upon securing the rest, which I hope will be effected suddenly. The good people are generally as one man, willingly acting in this busines. The greatest straight we are in is want of armes for foote and horse; two hundred would make us complete. I understand, that Vavasor Powell have discovered some part of the plott in North Wales, and secured the persons himselfe, and brought them to Red-castle; and likewise Jenkin Jones of Breconshire, with the good people in that county, offers themselves to serve your highnes in this service. I shall wait your highnes's further commands, and remaine

Your highnes faithfull servant,

Monmouth, March 16, 1654.

JO. NICHOLAS.

Capt. Thomas Harrison to the protector.

MY LORD,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 255.

BEING given to understand by lieutenant col. Kellse, that it was your highnesse's pleasure, that I should accompany him in the present service he is upon, I did accordingly, but now am returned to my command, to execute an order for the securing of some horses of the duke of Richmon att Cobbham, and the last night I marcht thither with a partie of horse, and tooke an account of the said horses, which are 16 in number, 9 of them very gallant younge horses, five years owld a peece, with an ould stallion, and 4 ordinary geldes, with two colts 2 years owld a peece; and this morning I have sent for them to be brought to the crowne at Rochester. I shall humbly beg to knowe your highnesse's pleasure herein, for that it will be a great trouble to secure them there from spoyling one another, being most of them stoned, in regard we want that accomodation of standing, which they ought to have. Sir John Boyce, col. Clarke, col. Newman, major Child, captain Leay, are all in my custody; and sir Henry Pamour brought to Rochester, who is a weakely, sickly man, and of little or noe interest in this county; his estate consumed in paying of his father's debts, together with a considerable sume of money

money for his ingaging as a committee man in the Kentish business. He was taken by A. D. 1654. captain Ellis's horse after lieutenant col. Kelsie was gone from Canterbury; otherwise I presume his condition understood would have prevailed to have taken such security of honest men, as might have fully answered your highness's commands. His lady is greately with childe, and much afflicted at this business. I have in this humbly offered the truth of his condition, leaving the same to your highness's christian and pious consideration, to order as in your wisdom seemeth best, it being somewhat on my spirit, to offer this. My Lord God assisting, I shall continue to supplicate at the throne of grace for you, and humbly subscribe

Your highness's servant to command,

Upn. castle, March 16, 1654.

THOMAS HARRISON.

Col. H. Haynes to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

THIS day, according to former order, part of the regiment of foote under sir Thomas Vol. xxiv. Honnywood, mustered at this place, and had a verie good appearance, where also p. 257. there mustered major Templer's owne troop, who had about fourscore. The foote are dismissed with a charge to be ready at an houre's warning. The horse the major purposeth to stay heere with foure dayes, and then to discharge them, in case he receives noe further orders from your highness. On the morrow, being saturday, the rest of the foote belonging to the two regiments of sir Thomas Honnywood, and col. Cooke, and the other troopes of horse under the command of major Templer are to muster in their severall divisions, and to returne home with the like warning to be ready at an houre's call. Truly there hath bin such a forwardness by the gentlemen before named in this action; and noe lesse ready compliance in the country alsoe, as could not have bin expected. Wherefore if your highness shall please to signifie your good acceptance thereof to sir Thomas, &c. I am confydent it would engage for the future. Indeed sir Thomas hath bin mighty active and reall, and such a damp seemes to be uppon the spiritts of malignants (of which this place is full) and soe visible a change in so little a tyme, as really demonstrates the finger of God is in it. I trust the Lord hath a purpose of good to the nation in it, and to theise parts in particular. The troope I sent by your highness's order to Bury was joyfully received by the judges and the well affected of that place. I shall not fayle to attend them at Thetford with another troope out of Norfolke, from whence I am assured all is in quiett, and noe appearance of a ryling. Our recruits come in more freely than expected; and had we but monies, men of good affection would not be wanting. I humbly beg your highness's order for the prisoners I have in custody, being forced to keepe them in inns. I am,

Colchester, March 16, 1654.
Fryday 6 at night.

My lord, your highness's most humble servant,

H. HAYNES:

March 16, 1654.

Examinations taken before Thomas Lloyd sheriff, Hugh Price, John Kynaston; Edward Price, Thomas Nicholls, Edward Allen, Edward Vaughan, and John Griffith, esqrs; touching the discovery of a late plot, &c.

Arthur Vaughan of Treherwin in the county of Montgomery, gentleman, aged 25 Vol. xxiv. years, or thereabouts, being examined the day and year abovesaid, saith, that on p. 258. wednesday the 7th day of March past this examine was sent for from his father's house by Thomas Rogers of Burgedin to come to speak with Ralph Kynaston at Kanamunouch; and not finding the said Kynaston there, this examine saith, that he went into Pena Park in Musbrooke, and there found the said Kynaston at an alehouse, with one — Thruston; and about 7 or 8 men more, which the examine saith he knew by sight, but not their names; and this examine saith, that the said Kynaston asked this examine, whether he heard of a plot against the lord protector: this examine said he heard of no such plot. Then the said Kynaston said unto this examine, that there was a plot against the lord protector, and asked this examine, whether he would not go with him. This examine then said, he would not. This examine said, that the said Kynaston said, that he had promised one sir Thomas Harris to go, and to have some men to go; and the said Kynaston said, he would send ten men, according to his promise, but he would not go himself, because his wife was not well. This examine

VOL. III.

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A. D. 1654. *nate farther faith, that the said Kynaston said unto this examine, that if this examine would go, that he must go the next day after; and that he must go unto the said sir Thomas Harris, and there would be many more men, that would go with the said sir Thomas Harris to meet him in sir Thomas Harris's park.*

This examine faith, that upon thursday the 8th of March this examine was at one W. Sunthes house about eleven of the clock, where this examine found no company, but his own brother and Rogers, who went with this examine; and while this examine stay'd, there came Ralph Kynaston, John Penrin, Andrew Williams of Winnington, Matthew Lloyd, and Thomas Lloyd of Melverly; and this examine then had some discourse with the said Thomas Lloyd, who then said, that it was heard, that there was a plot intended, and that the draw-bridge at Salop was drawn up, and the castle was well manned.

ARTHUR VAUGHAN.

THOMAS LLOYD,
HUGH PRICE,
J. KYNASTON.

The said Arthur Vaughan the said day examined upon oath faith, that he this deponent heard nothing of any to be in the foresaid plot, but what he hath heard since the discovery of the said plot, save what he hath before spoken in his examination.

This deponent faith, he heard from his father, since the discovery of the plot, there were about 80 men horsed together about the new bridge in the said county.

This deponent farther faith, that upon friday the 9th of March, 1654, this deponent was with Thomas Rogers his brother-in-law, at one Whittingham's, and there they had some discourse of the plot; and the said Rogers said, he was very sorry for Ralph Kynaston; and that night this deponent was at one Cureton's house, where he was all night; and there was one Thomas Corbet a glover, and his occasion to be at the said house was about some barley to make into malt, which the said Cureton's wife was to buy of this deponent's father. This deponent farther faith, that on saturday the 10th of March, 1654, this deponent met with his brother-in-law Rogers upon the way; and that this deponent had then no discourse with his said brother-in-law, unless his brother-in-law said, God help these people, that are in the plot.

This deponent went with his said brother-in-law into mr. Edward Tanat's of Trewells, and there he found one Andrew Parry of Musbrooke; and the said Edward Tanat then said, that he would have all punished that were guilty of the said plot, and then mentioned Daniel Pugh of Colfrin, and his brother; and from thence this deponent came to Poole, and thence unto his father's house. And farther faith not.

ARTHUR VAUGHAN.

THOMAS LLOYD,
HUGH PRICE,
J. KYNASTON.

Arthur Vaughan, being examined before commissary general Reynolds, William Crowne, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the county of Salop, Humphrey Mackworth, esq; col. Price, &c.

This deposition was again confirmed and acknowledged by the afore said Arthur Vaughan this 20th day of March, 1654, at Shrewsbury; and farther deposeth, that he told his brother Edward Vaughan, that mr. Kynaston told him, that there was a plot against the lord protector, and a rendezvous to be on the 8th instant at sir Thomas Harris's house, as it is laid down in his said brother's deposition.

ARTHUR VAUGHAN.

The examination of Rees Tanat, of Abbertanat in the county of Salop, esq; taken before Humphrey Mackworth, esq; governor of Shrewsbury, and col. Croone, esq; March 17, 1654.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 263.

WHO being asked, whether he knew of any plot touching the taking of the garrison of Shrewsbury, he denieth, that he knew of any plot or design against Shrewsbury, or that he knew of any rendezvous, or that any person whatever gave him any intelligence of any such design or rendezvous; but faith, that one mr. Ralph Kynaston, coming to a place called Llanamuay, upon wednesday last in the afternoon, and he hearing, that this examine was there at the clerk's house, whose name is Thomas Morris, being an ale-house,

house, came to this examine, where he spent half a dozen of ale upon this examine; and this examine being asked, what was his occasion of being then there, he saith, that he was walking his ground, and came thither to treat with the said Morris about some ditching, and other husbandry, that he this examine had to do; and denieth that the said mr. Kynaston during the time that he was with him this examine, or at any time before or after, told him this examine of any plot or design whatsoever, or from any other person whatsoever, as in relation to the garrison of Shrewsbury, or any other garrison. And being asked, where he went upon wednesday night last, he saith, that he went to one David Humphreys, at Karytovah, to meet one mr. Edward Edwards, of Colfrin in Montgomeryshire, to speak with him concerning some law business betwixt sir Perry Herbert and this examine, which was referred to the arbitration of mr. James Mytton and mr. Thomas Jones of Cargtovak; and from thence he went to the said David Humphreys, where he tarried all night, because he this examine was troubled with the tooth-ach, and from thence to the said mr. Jones's house, and from thence to a place called Serneneweth, upon thursday in the afternoon, about the said reference, where he met with the said mr. Jones and mr. Mytton, and from thence after he parted with them, he this examine went to his own house, where he stayed all night, in all which progress he met with no body whatsoever, that he had any discourse with, or any intelligence from, of any design or any plot whatsoever.

A. D. 1654.

REES TANAT.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

Extract out of the resolutions of the lords the states of Holland and West-Friesland, taken in their assembly.

Wednesday, March 17, 1655.

THE lords of the council have caused the lord pensionary de Witt to propound to the assembly of the said lords the states, that they were informed by the common report, that king Charles had undertaken to come into this province, and especially that he should at this present uphold himself at Teyling by the princess royal, the relict of the last deceased lord prince of Orange his sister; and although the said lords of the council had no certainty thereof, they have notwithstanding thought it their duty, to give notice of the same to the said lords the states, to the end that their lordships may make such a reflection on the same, as they shall think fitting and requisite for the service of the commonwealth. Upon which having deliberated and considered the 9th article of the treaty of peace made in the last year with the commonwealth of England, as also taken notice of the contents of the resolution of the aforesaid lords the states, dated the 30th July, as also the 2d and 4th of August, all of the year 1653, mentioning the coming in of the said king and other great persons within this commonwealth, without leave of the states general of the united provinces, and especially within this province, without permission of the said lords the states of Holland; it is thought fit, that on the behalf of this assembly, a serious letter be written to the princess royal aforesaid, to make her acquainted, that the said lords the states of Holland are advertised by the common report, that the said king should have betaken himself within the district of this state, and especially to abide at present at the house of Teyling: and although the said lords the states of Holland can in no manner believe or expect from the wisdom of the said king, that the same would or should dare to undertake contrary to the treaty of peace, and directly against the particular orders of the said lords the states of Holland, contained in their before-mentioned resolution, and the letters sent to that purpose accordingly to the said princess royal; that yet for several good reasons, and for their absolute security, the said lords the states have found fit and convenient to represent the premises unto her, desiring and requiring her highness in all speed to certify to the said lords the states of Holland the sincere and very truth thereof; and admonishing her highness also, that by all good endeavours she will be pleased as much as she is able to prevent, that the said king do not undertake to come within the district or territories of the said states general of the united provinces.

Mr. W. Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

WHAT is above is a copie of my last to your honour, to whom I confirme, that the sixth of last moneth I went to the chancellor of the possesco office, Almaro, in manner as is above related; that at my arrival to that office I found him there, where

A. D. 1654. where after some civill compliments he asked me, if I had the provisions, which his majesty did allow me; that if I wanted any thing, it should be supplied to me: to which having given him a satisfactory answer, I demanded of him, if his I. M. had appointed his lordship commissioner (this I did to have from his owne mouth what I had the day before by my prestave) to heare me, and to receive from me such writings as I would give him. He replied, that he was; then I spoke to him as followeth:

That his highness lord protector, &c. with the lords of his honourable counsell did much wonder, that the English merchants (who were the first that introduced the commerce into this country by the port of Archangel, and had continued it so many years to the weale and great benefit of this empire,) should be sent away in this manner, as they were from Moscow and other parts within land, and permitted no further ingresse into these dominions than Archangel, where the other natives had free permission to traffique to Moscow and elsewhere in this empire, that were more modern in these parts, than ours, and this without cause given by our merchants, at least in England noe cause knowne: if there were, and that it pleased his imperial majesty to nominate any one or more of them, that had committed offence, to have meritted the expulsion done them, that if any such were to be found in England, he or they should receive punishment according to their demerit.

I had reduced into a few lines the 1st cause, for which the emperor of that tyme granted our merchants the priveleges they then had conferred by the emperor's successors, and ratified by his I. M. present at his entry into his happy reign, of some good offices done to this empire by our nation, signal and beneficial services by the merchants, which I delivered his lordship in that writing. The copy of it is noted (A), which I desired him to have translated into his owne langwidge, and referre the contents to his I. M.

I alsoe delivered him another writing, (which is that noted B) of such demands, as I supplicated the emperor to grant our merchants, in which I needed not further to discourse, but referred my selfe to it. Moreover I delivered him the petition of widdow Dorothy Digby and company, that they by me did present to his majesty, concerning his patent granted them for the making of pot-ashe in this country; to which petition I alsoe referre my selfe, and is that, which is mentioned in the 7th article in paper B.

Having finished what concerned the merchants business, I desired his lordship would heere me in the subsequent particulars:

That heretofore, when England was governed by kings, and they did send an agent or gentleman messenger to these emperors, at their first audience, when their I. M. did demand of the health of the king, they were pleased to rise from their throne, and stand, as did alsoe their lords, that assisted their majesties, stand, and were uncovered. That ceremony was not used, when I had the honor to deliver his highness the lord protector's letter to his majesty, when he demanded of his highness's health. That although the commonwealth of England hath altered and reformed the government of state, it hath not for that diminished any thinge of it's greatnesse and condition, but is rather augmented, if the just conquest and addition of countrys be an augmentation to a state in several wayes. That the kings of France, Spain, Portugall, and other princes and republicks of Christendom, that have sent their ambassadors to his highness, have deferred unto him the like ceremonys and respect, as such ambassadors did formerly to the kings of England; and that his highness's ambassadors the last yeare to the crowne of Sweeden, and other princes, had like reception and entertaynment, as formerly was used to the kings of England ambassadors; so that his highness reasonably cannot expect lesse from his imperial majesty, then such ceremonies, as heretofore have been used to those kings in their ministers. That I did not advance this as a complaynt, but an advertisement to his lordship, to be humbly represented to his imperial majesty.

That I had seene several of the greatest courts in Christendom, and had had the honour to be employed before now by a great prince to other princes, but never saw nor heard of such proceedings, as I fynde here; as when I was sent for to go to his I. M. I was in the name of his lordship commanded by my prestave to leave my sword, who also taketh the right hand of me. Such actions are accounted very uncivil in princes courts of other countrys; and for such personages as have been sent by these emperors into England, they have found a cleane contrary courtesye and civility used towards them, as the last that was sent from his imperial majesty may have certified; and if he have not done it, he hath done wrong to his majesty, and to our republicke, for that a publick minister ought to referre to his prince the truth of all matters in his employment.

For a conclusion I told him, that the present warr his I. M. hath against the king of Poland, the causes of it were spoken in the courts of other princes in divers manners, according to the passions, interest, or affection of the relators. That therefore if it pleased his I. M. to lett me have the honour to know the real motives of the said warr (which if I had by his majesty's command I should esteeme them true) whereby to make a relation of them to his highness, credit will be given to that, which would not be to other narratives. That I did not insinuate my selfe in makinge this demande to know more then what his I. M. was willinge to imparte.

The chancellor made me answer, that to all what I had spoken and given in writing, A. D. 1654. he would make a perfect and true relation to his majesty, and I should receive his answer. All was done by the interpretation of John Hebden, and as he spoke it in Russ, two secretaries that were by tooke it in writing.

The 7th currant came advice, that the Pole hath regayned a great cittie, that was taken from him the last yeare by the Russe, putt all them to the sword, and quarter given onely to the strangers. That newse was cause, that all the strangers, officers and soldiers, that were here, were forthwith all sent away to their quarters and randevouz; but are all gone disgusted, by reason of their small paye, and that payed the greatest part in a new coyne of base money, which none will take but by constraint.

Sundaye 11th currant, in the morning very betimes, my prestave sent to me to be ready about eight of the clock to goe to the emperor. So about that tyme my prestave came, and at nine we were at the possesco office conducted as formerly; but no companies of soldiers stood as before, they being departed to the army, according to their assignment; where, having staid about an hower, came notice, that the emperor was gone to church, and that I must stay till his retorne; and then 'twas past mid-day, when I was sent for to go to his majesty.

I had audience in the same hall I had the first time, where the emperor was in his throne, and his nobles, counsellors sat at the lower end of the roome, as they did the first tyme. There was this tyme, more than at the other, two Tartar princes of the Russe religion, the one a Sybersky, the other a Casimersky, that satt at the upper end of the hall. The emperor's brother-in-law stood on his right hand, and his father-in-law on the left; and the chancellor went to and from his majesty to me, as formerly I have narrated. When I came before the emperor, he told me by the chancellor, that I had brought him great lord emperor and great duke Alexsea Michaylouich selfeupholder of the greater and lesser Russia, and of many other dominions lord and monarch, a letter from Oliver Vladitela, that is, sole director of the state of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and other lands, to which he had made an answer, and did there deliver it me. His majesty then commanded the chancelor to take the letter, which was in a window by him, and I was bid goe to the emperor to receive it; which I received from his majestie's owne hand; and being returned with it to the place, where I first stood, and delivered it to one of my gentlemen, the chancellor spoke to me agayne, saying, that for such matters, as I had delivered in writing, I should have an answer likewise in writing; and then I should returne, the way that I came; to which I replied, that my order was from his highnesse lord protector, that as soone as I had his majesty's letter, I was to retorne over land, with as much convenient expedition as I could make. Hebden then signified soe much (as he sayeth) and for an answer from the chancellor, that I should not speake of that matter there. Then the emperor putt his hands on his lyps, and moved a little up from his throne, and said unto me, that I should remember him to Vladitela, to whom he wished good health. Whilst his majesty spake these words, the two princes at the one end, and the nobles that were at the other end of the roome, stood, and were uncovered; which ceremony for certaine would not have beene done, had I not used to the chancellor the discourse above mentioned touching this matter. After this the emperor by the chancelor and Hebden told me, that he did favour me and my fowre gentlemen to kisse his hand; which being done, and returned to our places agayne, the chancelor told me, that the emperor did grace me with his dinner, soe as his highnesse servant and messenger. I thankt his majesty for my entertaynment, of which as of what I had treated of I would give his highnesse a particular and true relation; and auguring his majesty all prosperity, I was dismissed. When I came neere the door to goe forth, I bowed to the noblemen, who rise up uncovered, and did the like to me, which they did not doe at my first audience.

As soon as I was come forth from the emperor, a messenger from the duke of Coland went to his majesty, and had his dispatch and returns by Riga, the waye he came.

That saunday about four of the clocke his majesty, accompanied with this patriarch, some bishops, and other clergymen afoote, departed this cittie, having at the gate where he went forth received many blessings, holy water, and a great many crossings from some bishops, placed on scaffolds on each side of the gate, for that purpose; and soe went so fare as the river (which is a pretty distance from the gate, where he mounted on horsebacke, with a number of nobles and gentlemen, 600 souldiers on horsebacke, and 300 musqueteers on foote, with 20 led horses for his persone, and soe went that night to a house of his about two miles of this cittie, and the next morning continued on his journey to Smolensco. The newes of the taking the cittie above mentioned by the Poles, and their growing strong, made his majestie to departe from hence sooner than he would have done, and putts them in some confusion.

The superscription of the emperor's letter to his highnesse is, as it is interpreted to me, to Oliver, protector, or sole director, of the state of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and other lands.

A. D. 1654.

Munday morning the 12th I sent to the chancellor to tell him, that being the day before he told me, that I should not there speake to the emperor more than I did of my going over land by Riga, according to my order from his highnesse lord protector, I therefore did now send to know of him, if I could have those answers in writing, that were promised me, and my full dispatch, to goe that waye. I had for answer, that the emperor had decreed, that I should goe by Archangel; and that the chancellor could not alter what his majesty had determined. And for the answers in writing, that they were full of busines for the present, but I should have them in tyme convenient to goe downe; but this answer not giving me satisfaction, I writt him a letter (coppie of it is here inclosed) to which yet I have no answere.

I cannot imagine, what the true reasons or causes be, that the emperor will not lett me departe now over land by Riga. I understand by Hebden and by my prestave, to whom I have told, that his highnesse lord protector cannot take well this my detention, that his majesty doth it for my good, for that winter is now past, or will be before I can be farre from hence; and then the snow being liquified, the waters will be soe great for a month, that there will be no travelling; and that might take me on the waye in such a place, where I could have no other than bad accommodation. Moreover the dangers on the waye for incursions, that may be made by his majesty's enemys, whereby I might receive damage, and be robbed, are the considerations his majesty hath made, and would not, that in his state I should receive wrong, but returne out of it with safetie, and as hitherto I have bine. These are plausible reasons, but I believe none of them. I rather conjecture, that the emperor's letters to his highness will not give satisfaction; and the answers, that I expect in writing (which it may be I shall not have till farre in summer, to see what progres his majesty may make in his warrs against the king of Poland) will be given me, according as they shall see occasion fower or five months hence; and by that tyme they imagin to have advice of some alteration of some of the affayres in England, as here some doe hold them in opinion; and this I take to be the true causes of my detention. The treaty of his highnesse in discourse from the emperor, and the superscription of his letter, in my judgment, is in too playne and low a style. I have employed persons to procure me a coppie of it, and his highnesse letter to the emperor, as it is translated into Rufs. This is as much as for the present I can advertise your honour to my employment.

I am to beseech your honour, for what concerns my owne particular, to take notice, that by my goinge downe to Archangell, I shall be six or seven months in my employment more than was expected I should be, when I came out of England; and likewise come to a farr greater expence for his highnesse's reputation, (the company in that have had too little regard, as well in their instructions given me, as in their allowance for expences;) and if I had not at Archangel, and since carryed myselfe in another porte, than what they intended, I should not have had a boate there nor entertaynment on the waye; noe nor delivered his highnesse's letter to the emperor, as I have done, which would have bin no small indignity to his highnesse. And therefore your honour will be pleased to send for the governor and some of the company, and order them, that by the shippes they will send this yeare to Archangell, they remitt me moneys to discharge such debts, as I shall be forced to make for my expences in so many months, as I shall be extraordinary; and for my owne paynes and travil soe long time, I leave that till it please God I returne to England.

This is what I have for present to advertise your honour of. So I humbly take leave, and remayne

Your honour's

most humble servant,

WILLIAM PRIDEAUX.

Sent under covert to the company by Riga, and so to Hamburgh, it went by the duke of Coland's messenger to Riga, who is gone at the emperor's charge and conduction.

Shrewsb.

The information of Francis Thornes of Shelvock in the county of Salop, esq; before commissary general Reynolds, Humphrey Mackworth, esq; governor of Shrewsbury, William Crowne, esq; March 17, 1654.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 283.

WHO saith, that upon wednesday the 7th of this instant, Edward Lloyd of Oswestrey deposed, that he was at the Knuckyn upon tuesday, wednesday, and thursday, and his busines was to buy a horse of mr. John Williams; and there was in his company John Williams of Knuckyn, mr. Richard Payne of Argoyes, Roger Humphreys of Argoyes, John Fisher going only with him thither.

The

The information of Edward Tristram of Maesbrooke, March 17, 1654.

UPON oath deposeth, that he heard after sir Thomas Harris was taken, that Ralph Kynaston had enlisted soldiers, but knoweth not of any man that was enlisted. A. D. 1654.

The information of Nathaniel Rogers, son of Edward Rogers, of Maesbrooke, upon oath, March 17, 1654.

WHO saith, mr. Ralph Kynaston upon tuesday was fennight came to this deponent's house, and asked him, if he would go with him; this deponent said, he had business of his father's to look to; and the said mr. Kynaston said, he was very hasty, he could not stay at that time; but that this deponent should know the business within two or three days.

William Cotton of Maesbrooke sworn,

SAITH, that he did not see mr. Kynaston this week and above, and desired this examine to go to one Thomas Trystan to leave a horse, and nothing else; and that he knoweth not of any man that was enlisted, but what he knew he discovered unto mr. James Hanmer.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

The examination of William Cotton, March 17, 1654.

THAT being in company with John Rogers at Pena Park at the house of Edward Rogers at Pena Park, tuesday March the 6th, John Rogers told this deponent, that Ralph Kynaston was enlisting men to join with sir Thomas Harris; that they were to have rendezvous near Clanmonoth, and then to march and join with the said sir Thomas. Vol. xxiv. p. 284.

WILLIAM COTTON.

Mr. R. Aldworth to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

IN answer unto yours received by the special messenger yesterday about 5 a clock in the afternoon, you may be pleased to understand, that in compliance to what you writt about manning out a vessel to stopp the passage of the enemy over the water; I did effectually move concerning the same, and presently obteyned a concurrence; inso much that this evening that vessel falls downe, and will sett sayle with all expedition may be fitt for the service to be employed about. We sent away also a dispatch to the officers at Minthead, and Uphill, and other places about the coast, to give notice, that they seize all vessels and passing boats, and suffer none to passe in them. This day we had intelligence by two severall persons, which came out of Exeter on thursday, that the sherrife of Devon with the forces thereabouts had taken between 50 and 60 prisoners, and many more horses, and that party of the enemy thereabouts wholly disperfed. We have received my lord protector's commission, and instructions, for settling the militia in this citty, and in pursuance thereof have mett severall tymes for the furthering of that service. I am very much engaged to his highness and to your honour, in thinking me worthy of soe great a trust and command, when as there are others in this place very willing, more able and deserving of such an imployment. I shall with your honour's leave informe you, that since this new rising at Salisbury, by the helpe of coll. Tysen, major Collins, major Harper, capt. Grigg, major Yeomens, capt. Pope, capt. Kelly, capt. Blackwell, and some other honest and faithfull citizens, this place hath been putt into the best posture of defence we could, by raising of horse, and securing the ports by good guards, and that without the helpe of coll. Higgett, major Clerke, and that party, the management of which business without them I doe assure you was exceeding acceptable to the people here, who now understanding, that they come to be intrusted in the chiefeft command againe, are far more disatisfied and troubled; inso much as I cannot but humbly lett your honour knowe, that I doe much doubt there is soe great a discontent upon this among the people (though very conformable to the present government, and who would sacrifice their lives for preservation of the citty against the common enemy) as the two regiments will hardly be completed, or the inhabitants perswaded to march after them, looking upon them (as plainly reputed) to be great friends to quakers, and levellers, and disaffectors of the civill government here. Many well affected persons say, the number gayned by intrusting these two commanders will be very considerable,

A. D. 1654. siderable, to the number that will be disatisfied and disingaged by it. Truly, sir, in the relation I have not in the least measure any refference to my selfe. My aime, indeed is to a publick good. One regiment will be enough, and fully sufficient for this citty; and we do much doubt there will not be found persons chargable here for men and armes to compleat two regiments of 6 companies in each, nor men fitting and qualified for bearing armes in two regiments, besides the exceeding charge in raising and paying inferior officers; and therefore doe propose, that both colonel Higget, major Clerke, and my selfe may be lay'd asside, and one regiment only appointed for some of those officers before-mentioned, which for some years have had the command of the people here, and are still very faithfull, and well affected, and zealous in preservation of this citty. For my owne part, I shall most willingly submitt (if soe thought fitt, on this publick good account) to resign up my commission, with the consideration of the weaknesse of my body, and my unexperience in such military affayres; yet am willing still to the utmost to prove a faithfull servant to the commonwealth; and shall proceed, as much as possibly I can, in settling the militia, as now ordered, till it shall be thought fitt by his highness to be otherwise disposed of, or putt into other hands. Thus craving leave for troubling your honour with such rude lines, I subscribe with all thankfullnesse

Your honour's most obliged and faithfull servant,

March 17, 1654.

RO. ALDWORTH.

Mr. James Powell to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 285.

I fynde amongst those comissions sent downe from his highness, one directed to my selfe, to be lieutenant colonel to mr. Robert Aldworth; which though I hartily embrace as to the thinge it selfe, as being willinge to pledge all I have for the publique good, yet such is my imperfection of health and insufficiency for this service, having not been exercised in armes, that I doe make it my most earnest request, that your honour will favour me soe farre, as to procure a commission in my steade unto mr. Jonathan Blackwell, a man of as unquestionable faithfullnesse to his highness and commonwealth, as any I knowe, and of credit and interest in this place. Sir, I doe not this to slip my necke out of the businesse, but I professe to doe it for the most publique advantage of the place, and in knitting together the honest interest.

There are several honest men amongst us, that have upon all occasions shewed themselves for the common cause, and have beene captains and other commanders over the people, and have an interest in the affections of the people; and as there is cause, can ingadge the greatest part of the inhabitants, of which the abovenamed is one; and did, when the Scotts were at Worcester, raise and arme a company at his owne cost, and did draw out and arme the greatest guard in the citty in this juncture, and one, who, if the commissioners of militia had had their choyce, would have had him. Therefore, sir, I beseech you to take soe much trouble at my request, that a commission may be sent by the next post.

Mr. Robert Aldworth, intending to have written you per this post, is suddenly taken ill, and therefore desires me to intreate your excuse till next. Had he beene well, he had joyned with me in this request. For my owne part, I shall be able to doe better service in other capacities than in this.

Sir, if I may be soe bould, I could humbly desire, that a commission may be sent downe to major John Harper to be captaine of the troop of horse. When the businesse was at Worcester, he commanded the troope under col. Scroope. We have listd them, and although the militia commissioners may give a commission, yet I know the businesse will not be animated without it.

His highnes hath expressed a good confidence in the citty, by trusting them with the militia, which I hope will be an obligation on them to answer the same; but the makeinge of two regiments, and placeinge of some persons in commission soe much laid asside in the affections of the people, I doubt will occasion extreme jarrs, and much interfering upon the grounds I have formerly written you. For my particular, my principle is not to devide with any man, if he will be faithfull to the good old cause, against the cursed cavileers; and as to religion, I disclayme all morosity towards any, that are sober minded, however they differr; but this quakerisme is the grounde of great division, and will be the title of the regiment. I doubt, let us doe what we can, you will finde all interests will not be grasped handsomely in this bonde. Sir, I humbly pray your pardon for this abruptnes. We are made glad by the good newese of taking soe many rougues nere Exon.

Bristoll, March 17, 1654.

Your most faithfull servant,

JAMES POWELL.

A letter

A letter of information from John Price.

RIGHT WORSHIPFULL,

I HAVE intelligence of one mr. Burnet, minister, alias a profane parish priest of A. D. 1654.
Burmarsh, about three myles from Hieth, that he hath beene lately in France. His
maid lett fall words to this purpose; that being demanded by a friend of her's, where
her master was, said, hee was gone to France, and would returne with an army against the
round-heads; that hee was expected every day there. Captain Knott, governor of
Sandgate-castle neere Hieth, gave order to your late officer, Philip Littlewood of Hieth,
to apprehend him, who was not soe wise as he should in secrecie; but I understand, the
said Burnett is come over, and now in London, a verie dangerous, knowing, and subtle
man, supposed to have especial busines in these wicked commotions. I have made it my
work, but cannot yet finde where he lodgeth. I heare, that those countrymen doe ordinarily
lodge at the king's head in Love-lane, neere Billingsgate. It's possible hee may, if wisely
managed, bee heard of there, or at the starre on Fish-streete-hill. He was, as I heare, a cap-
tain in the late king's army, and hath his living still, and hath putt in a fellow in his roome,
during his present absence. Were his house searched, and all examined apart, it may
be hee may bee found out. It is somewhat a blind story, but pardon mee, I beseech you,

Dover, March 17, 1654.

Your humble servant,

JOHN PRICE.

This is a copy.

Thomas Chase to secretary Thurloe.

Alton, March 17, 1654.

HONOURED SIR,

I Thought it my duty at this juncture of time, humbly and briefly to represent to you Vol. xxiv.
somewhat of the state of our part of the countrey about Alton, giving you hereby to p. 287.
understand, that diverse (upon this late rising at Salisbury) of a very notorious and dan-
gerous quality, taking their horses, left their houses, and, as is generally conceived, and
indeed undoubtedly believed, repayed to the randevouz nere Salisbury; some of which
are since returned. Some others we yet heare not of. Now, sir, my humble motion
is, in behalfe of myselfe and my honest countrymen, that it would please his highnes to
vouchsafe, that some further enquiry may be made after such dangerous fellows, that
such course may be taken with them for the future, as may conduce to the countrey's safety
and peace, and the encouraging those that feare the Lord to goe on resolutely in all such
wayes, as tend to the promoting of truth, unity, and peace; and in case it be required,
there will be some about us, that will be ready to give in the names of divers such persons;
as above said. The bearer hereof, who is post-master living in Alton, a very confiding
poor man, and truly cordial for the honest and publicke interest, can, if you please, give
you, sir, some particular account of these things. Be pleased, sir, to excuse me, that I
should thus farr presume on your more weighty affayrs at this tyme; but partly out of a
sense of my duty, as also in answere to my promise lately made to you with mr. Cowper,
and withall perceiving diverse honest men to be of the same mind and desire with me,
I have adventured on your candid favour, being willing to approve my selfe in all just
wayes,

Sir, your's, under his highnes, and the states, most humble servant,

THOMAS CHASE.

W. Rogers, governor of Hereford, to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

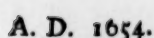
I Would not lett slip any opportunity to signify what posture we are in. There are Vol. xxiv.
ten companies of foote, and two troopes of horse, already modelled and raised in p. 288.
these two counties of Hereford and Monmouth. They are not yet quite filled up, but will
be suddenly. I am sent to from the well affected of Brecknockshire, who give me to under-
stand, they can presently make ready two or three hundred horse and foote, but dare not
raise them, because they want authority. They desire to be associated with us. If your
highness please to send me any orders, blanke commissions, or instructions in relation there-
to, I shall instantly observe them.

VOL. III.

3 X

In

A. D. 1654.

 In pursuance of your last orders I have secured severall disaffected persons, and seized many serviceable horses. Col. Birch coming hither now in the middle of the assizes (the city being very full of all sortes of people) gave out before the judges, as they themselves told me, that the present insurrections (Salisbury and the rest) did not consist of cavaliers, but a company of silly quakers, with some other discontented persons. He also told me the same, and added further, that the greatest matter was our owne jealousies and feares. Considering this, and what we knowe of his carriage, when the Scots were in Worcester, and his behaviour of late, I feared such speeches were coales cast abroad to kindle divisions among the good people here, and to hinder their uniting against the comon enemy. I thought it my duty for the safety and peace of these partes, and agreeable to your former orders, to secure him; which I have done, and as his sword was taking from him (he refusing to deliver it) said, though my sword is short now, it may be long enough within a while (the sword hanging by his side, being a little short sword) and very angrily asked me, whether I had orders to secure him. I answered, if I have not, you will question me. He replied, yes, that I will. I said againe, I beleive it. So we parted, and he is in custody. I have sent a party to possess his moated house (which I finde is very stronge with draw-bridges, it is alsoe well provided) least at this tyme it might be surprized and manned against your highnesse, and be a great scourge to this country. I beseech your highnesse speedy order concerning this person and his house, whither I shall continue a guard there, or make it untenable. There is to be in Worcester city very shortly one of the greatest horse faires in England. There are now no forces in that county. It may be of concernment, if your highnesse appoint a good party of horse to lye thereabout. Major Creede hath fower troopes now in Glocester. Thus, craving pardon for this long trouble, I remain

Your highnesse humble and faithfull servant,

Hereford city, March 17, 1654.

W. ROGERS.

Mr. J. Topping to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 289.

YOUR's of the 10th instant, together with his highnesse letter, I received, and to the utmost of my power shall be carefull in observeing the commands therein. Wee have 11 contray gentlemen prisoners, who are suspected persons; and I expect more to be sent in this day. Wee have two companyes in this garrison, consisting of 70 men in a company. Yesterday I sent thirty men, comanded by captain Simpson, to secure the castle, untill 130 men, who are on their march from Barwicke, come to secure the towne alsoe. Wee were on the third night's duty before I sent this party away; and indeed this place is as cold, standing into the sea, as any place I ever came to, which causes our soldiers to falle sicke, and will weaken us much, if the centinells go on every third hour, as nowe they doe. Lord's day last a party of the caveleares, about 60, were in armes neere Morpeth, and yesterday captain Lilburne was upon his march to fall upon a party of caveleares, got together at Barbye-castle. All these things considered, I thought it my duty, to request you to acquaint his highnesse therewith, that, if it seeme good, a greater number of men may be allowed to secure this place, for here was never soe small a number, untill the yeare 52, in all the late warrs. I hope our God will owne his people still; for our enemies witts are good, but they want hearts to act their diabollicall designs. Soe doubtles the mercies of our good God endure for ever. I desire to heare of the receipt of this. I am,

Sir, your very humble servant,

Tynemouth-castle, March 17, 1654.

JO. TOPPING.

SIR,

I am unwilling, yet if I doe not make it knowne, it may redound to my shame: we cannot subsist without a constant supply of money; our soldiers are 16 weeks pay behinde; and it made us poore, becausee we live upon one another. I have lent the other company out of my own purse 50 l. and we are in as much want as ever. Barwicke and Carlisle can borrow, or provide otherwise; it is not soe with us. I blesse God, we are all contented; and I heare noe inquietnesse; but want of pay hath begott mutinyes, and I . . . feare the worst.

General

General Disbrowe to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

THIS evening I received intelligence, that the enemy was routed on wednesday night last at Moulton in the county of Devon; severall prisoners taken and carried to Exon goale; but I suppose the particulars are more fully sent to your highnesse than is yet come to my hands; and therefore I doe by these humbly acquaint you of my intentions as to further service, by dividing these troopes with me into severall places, where they may lye convenient for the apprehending of those that are fled, viz. my own troope to Bemister, captain Scotton's at Bredport, major Blackmore's at Crookehorne, captain Wallington's at South Petherton, and major Jenkins at Somerton, and to keepe a guard at Lamport: major Butler's troopes, two to Salisbury, and two to Marlborough; and the two troopes of colonel Twisleton's to returne to Alton and Farnham, all to attend your highnesse's further pleasure. I have written to the respective sheriffs of Wilts, Dorset, Somersett, Devon, and Cornwall, to use their utmost endeavours for the apprehending of all suspicious persons, that may be thought to have had a hand in this insurrection; and have also written to the justices of the peace of those respective countys, to make diligent enquiry what persons have been absent from their habitations within the space of ten dayes last past, and upon examination to deale with them as to justice shall appertaine.

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
p. 290.

I purpose (God willinge) forthwith to ride to Exon, there to spend two or three days in examining those prisoners taken, from whom somthing may be obtained for the advantage of the commonwealth. I am informed, that Penruddock, Grove, Jones, and Mumparsons, with about 40 of their men are at Exon in prison. It is thought T. Wagstaffe is escaped. I beg your highnesse's pleasure and commands concerning my selfe and my troopes, and subscribe my selfe

Wincanton, March 17,
1654.

Your highnesse's humble servant,

JOHN DISBROWE.

J. Griffiths to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

YOUR messenger (mr. Cook) with the packitts unto major colonel Duckenfield, col. Croxton, and my selfe is safe come hither, and is now speeding away to col. Duckenfield and col. Croxton, to the end you may receive a satisfactory accompt thence. By the blessing of God upon our vigilancey there are not now any visible party of the enemy in those parts, that dare keepe their station, other than some skulking partys, who meete in the most obscure places, and upon notice of our readinesse disperse themselves; for since our first intelligence, wee have been upon our guard heere, as captain Picke, captain Taylor, and severall others have been in North Wales; and upon all occasions we have had recourse to each other, and have taken severall persons, some whereof have confessed the reallity of their own treacherous designe, one whereof, which came to my hands, I have here inclosed; fuller discovery whereof you may confidently expect, now there is a power to act by, which wee shall speedily putt in execution. The regiment of horse you have commissioned col. Duckenfield unto, will sufficiently serve for all the quarters of North Wales and Cheshire. I humbly thanke you; for your nomination of captain Wright; and I am confydent his highnesse will finde comfort and satisfaction both from that and his Cheshire choice. I shall carefully send yours to my lord deputy, and did not omitt to send to you by any post since the first stir; nor hereafter shall, when any thinge of concernment may be communicated by,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 291.

Chester, March 17, 1654.

Sir, your most humble servant,

J. GRIFFITHS.

The commissions are misplaced, for that which should have been for the commissioners of the county, were sent to the cytty, which I have sent to rectifye.

Col. James Berry to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

WE have, as well as we could, perfected the busines of these parts; and this day by your highnes order I am left alone, colonel Hacker haveing called away his troopes to Liecester, and my lord Lambert commanded his to Namptwich. I came even

Vol. xxiv.
p. 293.

A. D. 1654. now from Newarke to Mansfield, thinkeing it convenient to moove to and fro to prevent new stirring. Indeed I hope the snare is broke in these parts. I hope you have an account of such prisoners as have been taken. I sent those we had towards London; but I perceive they have been sent to Coventry by colonel Hacker. We have disarmed divers malignants, and taken engagements for others, against whom we can prove nothing. We find none but broken marchants in this busines; and in most places we find men willing to declare against it. Nottingham hath voluntarily sett a guard upon their bridge, to stop those that fly from us, and examine all that passe, and desire assistance. I have given them encouragement, but can spare none from my troope. If you judge there be need, I could quickly increafe my troope. We make a shift to pay quarters, but indeed we cannot doe it long without money. If you would please to thinke on Lincolneshire, and try them a little, in authoriseing them to raise some men for keepeing the peace of their countrey, I am apt to thinke, colonel Rawcester would appeare for you in this quarrel. I humbly expect and crave your order concerning these armes we have taken; as alsoe instructions what to doe, which shal be faithfully observed by

Newarke, March 17, 1654.

Your highnes most humble servant,

J. BERRY.

Prisoners taken from colonel Hacker, major Goodricke, and his party, are,

Captain Barker.
Cecil Cooper.
Major Scott.

Mr. Whalleys 2 men.
John Cooper's carter that carried the armes.
One Plunkett, an Irish man.

Those that we heare were there, and are fled,

Captain John Cooper of Thurgaton.
Mr. Thomas Nayler of Halam.
Mr. Bins of Dodsworth.
Mr. Davison, tutor to sir Go. Saville.

Colonel Gilby.
Mr. Thomas Paldwin.
Mr. Gregory Paldwin.
One Felton of Halam.

Mr. Joseph Chambers to Thomas Bafnet, esq.

WORTHIE SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 292.

Sithence your departure from us, I have had maney sudden unexpected troubles. It clearly appeareth, there was a damnable rebellious riseing and plott intended by many thousand disaffected, malignant, and desperate wicked men, to putt all the nation into a flame, and to involve and imbroyle us into a sadd warr and division. Through God's mercy and gracious providence of our good God, who ordereth all things according to the counsell of his owne will, as also by the prudence and vigilancie of the lord protector, in many places, the enemyes are disipated, and their plotts and counsell effatuated, blessed be the Lord of heaven for his love to his people and to our nation. Sir, upon wensday last commissary generall Reynolds, by order from his highnes the lord protector, came to me, and desired me to give notice to our bretheren, that he desired a treaty with us; and to observe our reality and good affection to the republique, acquainting us, that he had order to withdrawe the forces you left in towne, to march to Woscester; and that we should presently sett the citie in a posture of defence, and that we should raise three companys under the command of lieutenant col. Phipps, major Beake, captain Brownell. I have taken the care and charge of the safety and security of the citie upon me; upon which I had the keyes redelivered to my care and charge. I have caused watch and ward day and night, and have taken much paines day and night for the preservation of our poore citie. Sir, at the commissary his goeing from Coventry, he gave me a list of maney disaffected persons to be brought in and secured, which is performed accordingly, some of them disposed to one place, some to another, we having as yet neither marshall or prison to secure them. The most trouble is, col. Hacker of Lescester hath sent divers prissoners to be secured, who were directed to the comander in chiefe of the forces in Coventry. The captaine beinge marched away, they are put upon us. We are almost at our witts end to know what to do with them. I wish heartily, we were discharged of them. Sir, this day we have raised three compleate companys under the command of the gentlemen before mentioned, who are all unanims to serve the publique. This I conceive will not hold to be under command long without pay. We do not know how or which way to raise it. I am as good a husband for the citie, as possible I can, in the preservation of our repute, money is expended, doe what I can. Sir, my service and cordiall respects to you and col. Purefoy. Thus, as briefly as I could, I have given you an account of our present condition.

condition. I much want your prefence and faithfull discrete advice and assistance. He A. D. 1654.
that earnestly prayeth for your good health, welfare, good successe, and happie returne to
our cittie of Coventry, is

Your servant to command,

Coventry, March 17, 1654.

JOSEPH CHAMBERS.

The superscription,

*To his much honoured freind, the honourable
Thomas Basnet, esq; at the Bell in Fryday-
street, neere Cheapside.*

Commissary general Reynolds to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

IT is no small contentment, that I was encouraged to present an account of affaires unto Vol. xxiv.
you, when I was dispatched into these parts; where since my coming I have enquired P. 295.
with diligence into the state of the countrey, and of the affections of the people, and am
exceedingly sensible of the consequence of this place, which if surprized would have
proved in all likelihood once more the fountaine of a warre. The young governour hath
behaved himselfe verry discreetly and faithfully, and will, I hope, receive encouragement
in these his hopefull beginings. Since my coming severall militia companies, being quar-
tered here and at Wrexham, have offered the continuance of their service upon the pay
of his highnes; but having acquainted them with the greate want of money, and that
some forces of your standing army were sent to preserve the peace, whereby they might
be eased of the hazard and trouble, which duty would bring upon them, they are gone
to their severall habitations. Col. Crowne continues lifting, and, I beleive, will have a
regiment verry speedily completed. His desires are, that the countrey may be charged with
the pay of the private souldiours 2 dayes in each month; whereby he may be enabled to
draw them forth upon those dayes to discipline them. This is humbly tendred to be
considered. Both these and those at Wrexham are gone home with resolutions to rande-
vous upon occasion, and with greate chearfullness and satisfaction. The armes are laide
up in safe places.

I received no positive orders concerning the seizing upon malignants, and disarming all
the disaffected, but am sensible, that if it bee not now done, some plott will come to more
maturity; and then it will be too late. I judged the removall of combustible matter verry
necessary, when a fire is begun not farre off; and to this purpose I have sent into the seve-
rall countyes, where I have a present charge of horse, that all persons suspected to have
a hand in the present designe of a generall rising, or likely to do mischief, be taken
into custody, untill further order from his highnes. If some promissary engagement of
obedience and submission to the government were offered to all those who are seized
upon in the nation, besides security by obligation, it would be a tie upon them (if any
thing can bind an ingratefull people) or at least a cleare conviction against them, when
they rebell, as certainly they intend to doe; and I much suspect those, that are incredulous
of any plot, being like the Irish, who never beleive their enemy deade, till his heade be
off. To such persons punishment seemes more adue than perswasion.

The examinations of those, who are found guilty of the surprisall intended at this place
shall be sent you speedily, and severall proofes against one captain Kineston and others, who
lifted men in the day time publicly for Charles the 2d. If a commission were sent to
try them, I conceive it would prevent much future evill, and be a meanes to satisfy many.
This is likewise humbly tendred to be considered. I shall expect his highnes farther
pleasure, which, so farre as the Lord shall enable me, none shall with more good
affections and diligence pursue, than,

Sir, your humble and faithfull servant,

Shrewsbury, March 17, 1654.

J. REYNOLDS.

I have received intelligence from all the countyes mentioned in my order, that they are
in present quietnes, in reference to action; but the honest people are much afraide, not-
withstanding the forces are come.

Mrs. Katherine Bradshaw, wife of resident Bradshaw, to secretary Thurloe.

HONORED SIR,

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
P. 297.

I Returne you many thanks for your favour in presenting me to his highnes, and hope you weare pleased since to acquaint him with my husband's letter, that so his highnes might not strange at my waiteing of him so lonely, the distemper of my head seazing foe sadly, that my spirits weere made incapable to acquaint his highnes or your honour of my condition for my deare husband, and that honest and godly party joyning with truth, although the least in number, yet the greatest in faithfullnes to his highnes and this present government; and thoes of the companye that fears God, and are confident he is pleased to one them, and letts out much of comfort to uphold ther harts amongst a perverse people in thiese sad tymes, theire enemies boasting both heare and at Hamburgh of maney eminent frinds they have made for them, and are very confident to reape the full of theire bitternes against my husband and them, which they report is already effected, and joy much with the thoughts of greate dishonor cast on my husband; but I presume one your honor's tendernes of him and the honest party, to whome I perceive his highnes doth leave the whole busines. Sir, mr. Townlye being heare to carry on the busines with a joynt purse, haveing the engagement of all the malignant party to stand foe by him in this busines, they are resolved to hazard there fortunes and break the company, rather than fayle in their wicked desingne, which I am tould by severall, they have now effected the call of my husband for England, and upon that account, all the loose yong men are in returne to drinke out theire distructions. It's sadd to say it, but tow true: the truth of this report I beseech you be pleased to retorne me in too lines by this bearer, my servant, that I may forbear sending servants and severall other needfull provisions, which he ordered me, and expects by thes shippes which fall downe within three dayes. Sir, I must crave pardon for my tediousnes, and your favourable respect, in excuseing my not attending your laydy before this, which is occasioned by want of health, but hope to waite upon her before long. In the meane time, I comitt you to God, and in him rest,

London, March the 19th dae, 1654.

Honored sir,

your frind and servaunt,

KATH. BRADSHAW.

Shrewsb.
ff.

The deposition of Francis Thornes of Shelvocke, in the county of Salop, esq; before Humphrey Mackworth, esq; governor of the said towne, William Crowne, esq; and justice of the peace of the county of Salop, and Charles Benyon, esq; justice of the peace of the towne and libertie of Shrewsbury, who deposeth as followeth, March 19, 1654.

Vol. xxiv.
P. 298.

THAT he knoweth not any thing directly or indirectly concerning the plot, in carrying on a design for the taking the town of Shrewsbury and castle; and that upon wednesday the 7th of this instant March, he being first sent unto by mr. Lloyd of Llanvorda, to meet the said mr. Lloyd at John Wyke his house, at Short Alton, an alehouse, Sir Thomas Harris came thither about half an hour after, this deponent not knowing any thing of his coming there; and where were met one mr. Cole, mr. Edwards of Cawlefrey, one — Jones, an attorney, his son Thomas Thornes, and one mr. Robert Lee, who came with this deponent, who being all at present this deponent can remember, the only business that this deponent came there about was in reference to private business, and the whole time's discourse of the persons aforesaid, at their meeting, was not a word concerning the King's person, or any plot or design in reference to this county, or any other part of the nation, saving that this deponent told the said persons met together, what he heard from one mr. Stanley, viz. that the said mr. Robert Stanley, the minister of Knuckyn, coming the same morning to this deponent's house about private business, and in their discourse the said mr. Stanley told this deponent, that one Ralph Kynaston was raising of men at the Knuckyn; and it was the report of the people of the country to this deponent, that the said Ralph Kynaston was raising of men at the Knuckyn for the king; and that this deponent told the said persons, met as aforesaid, that his the said Ralph Kynaston's foolish carriage would bring an inconveniency upon them; and further deposeth not.

WILLIAM CROWNE.
CHARLES BENYON.

FRANCIS THORNES.

The

The examination of Richard Corbett, gentleman, taken upon oath before William Crowne, esq;

March 19, 1654.

WHO saith, that he did not know of any rising or plot against the garrison of Shrewsbury, or otherwise; but saith, that upon thursday was sevensnight there was one Halfe, a gentleman of his this examine's acquaintance, sent a note to this examine by one Morris Shoue, a labourer, which purported his desire of seeing this examine the next morning at Shrewsbury; and accordingly this examine, having two days before appointed to go a hunting, did call on them, and drank with them in bed, and tarried about a quarter of an hour; but denieth, that there was any discourse at all passed between them touching the publick, or present government; only that they related, that they were going for Ireland, but did not tell him, whence they came, but asked this examine, whether he had a good horse: he answered them, he had not; and saith, that the said Halfe had then a case of pistols with him; and he this examine asked him, how he durst ride with pistols, and he answered, he had a commission from the protector to go for Ireland; and saith, that there was no company but servants and neighbours, that were with him a hunting that day; and that he left the said Halfe and the other two men with them, and since saw them not, or before, of six years last past.

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
P. 300.

RICH. CORBETT.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

The examination of Robert Shenton of Eyton, in the county of Salop, aged about thirty years, or thereabouts, taken upon oath before William Crowne, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the said county, March 19, 1654.

DEPOSETH, that one told him that sir Thomas Eaton had sent to borrow a pair of pots and a pack saddle to fetch things from Watling-street to his house, which were brought from London; and upon the Lord's day before this town was to be surprised, being the 4th instant, the said sir Thomas sent to one Edward Jones to Wellington, to know whether he had been with the lord Newport, to know whether the hunting did hold at Tongue, or at what hour he should meet my lord at Watling-street; and the monday following in the morning sir Thomas and his two men were seen going into Watling-street to one Fewtrell's house, where they continued a great part of that day. On thursday following mr. Thorne and his son came to sir Thomas his house, and staid about two hours, and after went in company with sir Thomas to a little alehouse called the Sheabridge by a woodside near his house; and whither they went after this deponent knoweth not. Upon friday following sir Thomas and his men went very early to the aforesaid Fewtrell's house in Watling-street, and there staid most part of the forenoon. And this deponent further saith, that he heard the same day, that when sir Thomas was gone, the servants of the house hid all the arms that were in the house. Likewise on wednesday last the said sir Thomas sent two of his horses to his house at How Hall, or that way to be secured, as he conceiveth. And this deponent saith further, that he was informed, that an ancient man upon a grey in sole mare came often unto his house before the 4th instant, as though he came from Boreacton side of the country; and upon sunday the 11th instant the aforesaid countryman was seen coming on foot to sir Thomas Eaton's house by the people, as they came to church.

Vol. xxiv.
P. 301.

ROBERT SHENTON.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

The said deponent further saith, that about summer there came a letter from colonel Gerard to sir Thomas Eaton, in which there was a passage, viz. That churl Nabal should not long enjoy the vinyard, but princely Ahab should soon reign again, or words to that effect. Whereupon Thomas Harper of Wellington told sir Thomas of the passage, which Thomas Parrock first related, and a check for his pains by the said sir Thomas.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

ROBERT SHENTON.

The

The deposition of Nathaniel Rogers, of Masbrooke in the county of Salop, taken upon oath, before me William Crowne, esq; March 21, 1654.

A. D. 1654.

WTHAT about tuesday, the 6th of March, mr. Kynaston came to his father's house at Masbrooke, and called there; and that this deponent came unto the door, and thereupon mr. Ralph Kynaston asked him, whether he would go along with him. This deponent replied, that he could not be absent for any long time, because of this business; whereupon mr. Kynaston replied, that he should go no farther than he went; and this deponent then heard, that mr. Kynaston had engaged many others to go with him, and was then raising men, and, as the rumour of some in the country was, for the king; but denieth that mr. Kynaston said more particularly unto him any thing of the design, but told him, that he would come, or send for him, when to come, and to tell him what the business was.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

NATHANIEL [] ROGERS
his mark.

Mr. Ralph Harmer to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 304.

I AM now almost come to the blunt resolution of Luther, expressed in as blunt Latine, *vadat mundus sicut vult, nam vult vadere sicut vult*; onely give me leave, I beseech you, to trouble your honor and myselfe with publik affaires. I hope, by the blessing of God, the feare of those wretched soules, who thirsted for blood, is pretty well blown over; and that some of them shall drinke of that cup they intended for others. But, sir, what advantage of peace abroad, if trouble and dissension at home? Surely you have sent us down commissions to raise and settle *malitiam* rather than *militiam* in our citie by your superadded officers. It may be his highnes thinks hee hath ingaged the more unto him; but truly, sir, hee hath much sadded all your best friends; and if your heartie affection and service be any thing worth, hee will lose by it. The men are not so considerable, nor so respected, as to have many followers, but by force, which will much discourage and discontent, if it doe prevaile. And truly, sir, I must needs tell your honour, that hee or they were much mistaken, or somewhat worse, that suggested to you, that they were such honest men, as you write; for as for the col. if to be a cavileer with cavileers; if to be employed from hence to Oxford for commissions or patents from the king; if to be a presbiter, when presbitery is uppermost, to be an independant with independants, an anabaptist with anabaptists, and now to be a friend and favourer to ranters and quakers, his wife being a profest quaker; if to be intimate and familiar, and have often meetings with, and give countenance to such as are professed enemies to the present authoritie (none being greater with that viper Bishop, and that gange, then hee) if these thinges be to be honest, then hee is honest. As for the lieutenant colonel, he is a stranger crept into the citie since the troubles, and so honest, that most men are afraid to trade or deale with him. I doubt not, but hee that presented them as honest, did as much for others, till they were discovered to be so honest to drinke healthes to the kinge, though in command under his highnes, and receiving publik pay; whereof I doubt not but that most ingenuous gent. major Boteler, hath given an account. Sir, neither of them are my enimies, nor have they done mee wrong; and if they had, I hope my principle would carry me above private revenge. The desire I have to promote the publik peace and welfare hath put me on to this unpollitick, but true and honest undertaking; but I am secure in your love and wisdom. But yet I must tell your honour, what I have here writt is no secret in our citie; and if you shall but hint, that my plaine dealing suites not the court temper, I'll trouble your honour no more in this kind, but I shall retire my selfe to my private devotions, and (*inter alia*) pray, that the Lord would preserve his highnes from secret plotters and open flatterers, from pretended friends and reall enemies; that he would make him (and your honour under him) friends to those, who seeke the publik more then their private interest; and that hee would teach us all so to demean our selves in the practise of honesty and truth here, that wee may be everlastingly happy hereafter: which that your honour in particular may attaine, craving pardon for my boldnes, I commend you to the grace of God, ever resting, however things goe,

Sir, your honour's most true and faithfull servant,

Bristoll, March 19, 1654.

RALPH HARMER.

I am to present to your honor the due respects of your humble servants, mr. Aldworth and mr. Powell, who tell mee, that all our magistrates intend to make a strict and private search this night through the whole citie for strangers.

I

Capt.

Capt. Lawson to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

I Shall presume to beseech your honor, that if the Speaker cannot be filled for the summer guard, that then vice-admiral Blewitt may be ordered to one of the third rate frigats at Portsmouth, and to get her ready with what speed may be, for he is one that hath done very good service: he is an old servant ever since the war with the late king, is an ingenious active man; and if there be any action, one that I am sure there will be need of. For his fidelity I will engage my life. Here is a vessel newly come into the Downes, which the 15th instant was in Diepe road upon the coast of France, and should have gone in, but had some advertisement from shore, that all the English and Dutch shippes there were stayed; and they also told him, there was a stay in all other ports in France, and that they are pressing seamen very fast at Diepe; and I hear also, that there is a great fleete of ships in New Haven road, but what they are I know not. This with the tenders of my humble service is all at present, but that I am,

Fairefax in the Downes,
March 19, 1654.

Right honourable,

your honour's most humble

and faithfull servant,

JO. LAWSON.

The examination of Elias Preston of Wrexham, in the county of Denbigh, chirurgeon barber, taken upon oath before William Crowne, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the County of Salop.

WHO being demanded, what company was in his examine's house at Wrexham upon wednesday the 7th day of this instant March, he this examine keeping an inn there, he saith, that there was one major Kelledmund, an outlandish man, who, as this deponent hath heard, was formerly an officer under princet Rupert in this nation; lieutenant Sidney, who was a lieutenant under the late lord Capel; captain Pickering, who was once a capt. in Holt-castle for the king, and one mr. Nicholas Bayley of Carnarvon there; and saith that one William Eaton was at this examine's house on the aforesaid wednesday morning, but did not see any of the abovementioned persons; and further saith, that there was that morning at his this examine's house one mr. Oliver Broughton, who was formerly an ensign for the late king, and he was with the said major Kelledmund, lieutenant Sidney, captain Pickering, and mr. Bayley, in a chamber above stairs; and that colonel Robert Broughton and major Vaughan was there with the said Oliver Broughton, before he went up to the aforesaid gentleman in the chamber; and that one mr. Roger Edwards near Orleton came then thither; and doth deny, that there were any other persons in his this examine's house that day, so long as he this examine was there; and they came there upon no other business but to drink a cup of ale (as he knoweth) but confesseth, that he saw a little case of pistols of the said captain Pickering's in his chamber in this examine's house, where he had quartered the greatest part of the last winter, and saw no other pistols. And saith further, that he came upon the said wednesday from his house in Wrexham to Orleton, where he alighted at a shoemaker's house near the church, and there found two countrymen, and there he only tarried the drinking of a cup of ale, and taking of a pipe of tobacco; and from thence he came to mr. Kynaston's of Otley, to enquire for one mr. Benjamin Francis, a kinsman of the said mr. Kynaston's, for some money that he owed him this examine; and from thence he came to a place called Ryton, about a mile from sir Thomas Harris his house, where they lay all night at one Bray's house, and there met with one mr. Richard Jones of Weston in Denbighshire, and they lay together there all night, but mr. Jones went homeward betimes in the morning; but before he went, one mr. Vaughan, a servant or bailiff to sir Thomas Harris, came down to them, to shew him this examine, being a chirurgeon, his leg, which was sore; and saith, that he hath been often desired by the said mr. Jones and the said Vaughan, to come over to see his the said Vaughan's leg; and saith, that upon this day fortnight, he this examine bought a saddle for one William Eaton, and it cost ten shillings; and that the said mr. Eaton came thither that day to fetch it away upon the said wednesday the 7th of this instant, but did not tarry with this examine but a very little while. And saith, that even as this examine was coming away from his house, one mr. John Lloyd of Vivall alighted there; and that the rest of the aforesaid that were at his house were then there, except the

VOL. III.

3 Z

saith

A. D. 1654.

saide Bayly, Kelledmund, and lieutenant Sidney, who were gone, but where this examine knoweth not; and denieth that he heard any discourse between the said gentlemen that were at his house, or after that he came to Boreaston to sir Thomas Harris his house, of any design or plot whatsoever, touching the surprising or taking of the garrison of Shrewsbury, or any other discourse tending to the disturbance of the present government or the publick peace.

ELIAS PRESTON.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

March 16, 1654.

The examination of John Cuny of Shrewsbury, in the county of Salop, butcher, taken upon oath.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 308.

WHO being asked, whether he knew of any design or plot against the garrison of Shrewsbury, or the commonwealth, he saith not; and doth deny, that he knoweth of any gentleman or others, that have lately been at his this examine's house, save one mr. Corbet, who sometimes, when he comes from hunting, will call there, and alight to drink. And farther saith, that upon thursday was sevensnight in the evening one mr. Hill, a goldsmith of Shrewsbury, and one mr. Wright, an ironmonger, came thither, and alighted, and gave their horses some ale; and as they were going away, there came three men to this examine's house, and lay there all night, till about eight or nine of the clock in the morning; one, whose name was Halsey, as this examine hath heard, but the other two names this examine knoweth not, but heard, that they came to Atcham bridge, with an intention to ride through Shrewsbury, but hearing the bridges were drawn, they rode by Hamon-wood, and so to Shrewsbury; and one of the gentlemen had an oyled coat and hat-case, and there was one bay gelding, that one of them rode upon, and two others of a grey colour; and when they came there, one of them told this examine, that they came newly out of France, and were going to Ireland; and one of them, that rode upon one of the grey horses, had a case of pistols before him; and saith, that as soon as they came to this examine's house they enquired what gentry were in those parts; and this examine told them, that there was none but the lady Corbet, and mr. Richard Corbet, brother to sir Vincent Corbet, and was a late captain for the king; and then they enquired what horse flesh they had, and he replied, he knew not, but was sure that the lady Corbet had none, but her son and servant had two horses, which were sent to Wrexham-fair, and a little mare, that the said mr. Corbet was used to ride an hunting upon. And saith, that the said gentleman writ a note to the said mr. Corbet, and it was sent to him by one Morris John, and they tarried for his coming back, and he only brought an answer by word of mouth; but what the answer was, this examine knoweth not; but saith, that the said mr. Corbet came to the said gentlemen the next morning, as he went a hunting; and went up to the gentlemen's bed side, and drank his morning's draught with them, and so went his way, and the gentlemen went their way; and this examine never saw them since. And this examine heard, that the said gentlemen went to the lady Corbet's house, to enquire after the two horses, that were gone to Wrexham fair; where one of them, as this examine heard, was sold for fourteen pounds. And farther saith not.

JOHN CUNY.

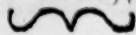
WILLIAM CROWNE.

Major Creed to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 317.

I Humbly thanke you for your good newes, and doe wish it may abide upon our hearts, and that we may live in the enjoyment of our mercies to the praise of him, that is the fountaine of them. Sir, I earnestly desire, that his highnes pleasure may bee knowne concerning the recruiting of our troopes, for we are in a good forwardness, having lifted many good old soldiers, and such as are honest men; and likewise severall gentlemen of knowne integritie, of this county and Worcestershire, have lifted many horse and foote. Really, sir, I am afray'd, the charge will bee very great. If it continue, in my opinion it were best to send home all the countrey men againe; and as to our troopes being recruited two hundredes a peice, you know best the state of things as to the continuance of them. A little money would defray the charges, that we have yet been at in this county; but if it

goe on, it will bee a very great charge. I onely mind it to you, if you would issue out A. D. 1654.
 some money to defray the charge, for at putting off the men, some money must be had. 
 I have no more, knowing you are bufy; but add, that I am,

Glouceft. March 19, 1654.

Sir, your very affectionate and humble fervant,

RIC. CREED.

Major Creed to ſecretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

I Troubled you with a letter this day by a meſſenger on purpoſe, to lett you know our Vol. xxiv.
 ſtate, and what forces we have raiſed in Worceſterſhire and Glouceſterſhire; as alſo p. 310.
 to know what his highneſſe's pleaſure is, wheather wee ſhall goe on recruiting of our troopes,
 raiſing any forces, or not; and further, that if we ſhall not, that then you would be
 pleaſed to let mee have a ſum of money, that I may put them off, before the charge be
 growne too great. I am willing to do any thing, that you will command; but I am
 afraid money will hardly be got to paye ſuch numbers of men. I doe thanke you for
 that good newes you were pleaſed to ſend me this day, of routing the enemy. I have at
 preſent put a checke to their furious going on of raiſing of forces, but not ſo, but that
 I can have the men at a very ſhort warning. The ſubſtance is, to have your commands
 touching the recruiting our troopes, and the new raiſed men; and for money, if they
 doe goe off, to give them ſome ſmall gratuity, which will be much for their encourage-
 ment; which is the earneſt deſire of,

Sir, your moſt affectionate and humble ſervant,

Glou. March 19, at night, 1654.

RIC. CREED.

I troubled you with this my ſecond letter, becauſe I would deſire your ſpeedy answer.

March 19, 1654.

*The examination of Richard Salter, of Shrewsbury, draper, taken upon oath before
 William Crowne, eſq; one of the juſtices of the peace for the county of Salop.*

WHO ſaith, and denieth, that he knew of any plot or deſign againſt the garrifon Vol. xxiv.
 of Shrewsbury, or any other plot againſt the commonwealth; but ſaith, that p. 312.
 upon this monday was a fortnight he went to Tetnall, and at Shiffnal overtook captain
 Smith, of the garrifon of Shrewsbury, and accompanied him thither; and there they
 parted, and from thence he went to one mr. Witwick's, of Dunſton, where he lay that
 night, and had appointed to meet with young mr. Walthall, the draper of Shrewsbury,
 where he alighted at the Bell and Raven in Wolverhampton, and tarried there all that
 night, and till thurſday morning after; and from thence he came home towards Shrewsbury,
 with three men, one whereof was a gentleman, and the other two, that he met withal
 at the Bell and Raven. And this examine ſaith, that they hearing, that he this examine
 was to travel to Shrewsbury, they deſired his company, and he bare them company to
 Atcham-bridge, where they alighted at the ſign of the Cock, and tarried down a quarter
 of an hour, and there parted with them, and went thence to mr. Creffett's of Cand;
 but denieth, that he brought the ſaid gentlemen to Shrewsbury, or ſaw them ſince he
 left them there; neither doth he this examine ſo much as know their names; but ſaith,
 he came to Shrewsbury upon ſaturday then following; and ſaith, that one mr. Mont-
 gomery, of Shrewsbury, upon this day fortnight did borrow a mare of this examine,
 for to ride a little way out of town, and he returned the mare back again within two
 hours; and there the mare remained till thurſday morning then next following; and then
 the ſaid Montgomery, without the privy or knowledge of this examine, took away
 the ſaid mare, he not being returned from Hampton; and ſince he knoweth not what
 is become of the ſaid Montgomery, or the ſaid mare. And this examine ſaith, that all
 the diſcourſe that paſſed touching any news between the gent. and he was, that at the
 Swan in Watling-ſtreet there was a report, that the lord Fairfax was up in the north, with
 thirty thouſand men.

RICHARD SALTER.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

The

The deposition of Ann Jones, the wife of John Jones, of little Nefs in the county of Salop, weaver, taken before William Crowne, esq; justice of the peace for the said county, and Charles Benyon, gent. one of the justices for the town of Shrewsbury, as followeth, March 19, 1654.

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
P. 313.

WHO upon oath faith, the first day of March she having been at Whitchurch, and coming home by sir Thomas Harris his house at Boreacton, saw a company of men on horseback and afoot to the number of forty, or thereabouts, as she verily believeth; and within a quarter of a mile of the said sir Thomas his house, as she came over against the door, came out of the door two men on horseback, which she looking upon, asked her, if she saw any gentlemen; she told them, that she saw a company more like an army than otherwise; which gentlemen said to her again, no, they were gentlemen hunters, but she knows not who those two men were that spoke to her, nor any of the company; which two men the one was mounted upon a bay horse, and a spare lean man, and the other had like a cap-hat with narrow brinks, and pinned up on the outside, a thick, fat man.

WILLIAM CROWNE.
CHARLES BENYON.

The mark of
ANNE JONES.

The examination of witnesses taken at Beaumorris upon the 19th day of March 1654, on his highness's behalf before us.

Vol. xxiv.
P. 314.

JOHN Price of Plusnewydd, a servant of mr. Nicholas Bagnall, aged twenty five years, or thereabouts, deposeth, that upon the 8th day of this instant March, one Rowland Price of Bodowyr in the county of Anglesey, gent. told this examinee, that his master would be in Denbighshire or Flintshire very suddenly, and wished this deponent to be ready the next day to go along with him to meet his master; desired him also to bring his brother along with him, and he should ride a horse of his: whereupon they all went to St. Asaph in the county of Flint, and there this deponent heard, that there was a general rising throughout the nation, and that the lord Fairfax was up in the North with 20,000 men; and finding that his master was not come into the country, and that there was a design in hand, this deponent resolved to come back to Anglesey.

THOMAS MADRIN.
WILLIAM WRAY.

JOHN PRICE.

Richard Wynne of Beaumorris in the county of Anglesey, gent. aged twenty four years, or thereabouts, deposeth, that upon the 19th instant he met one Rowland Price of Bodowyr in the county of Anglesey, gent. at Moyl y don within the said county, who then told this deponent, that mr. Nicholas Bagnall was freed; and that notwithstanding there was an insurrection or a general rising to be that night throughout the commonwealth: he told him also the name of him that was commander of the insurrections in chief; but this deponent faith, that he now forgot the party's name; but faith also, that one Thomas Tirer, who had received a letter from the said mr. Price, desired this deponent to go along with him that day to mr. Price, where he accompanied him to St. Asaph within the county of Flint. Mr. Price also told this deponent the design was to be for the surprizing of Chester or Wrexham that night; and that it was here reported, that the lord Fairfax was up in arms with 20,000. This deponent further deposeth, that the said mr. Price did then exchange a grey stone horse with one John Hill for a mare; and that he saw one John Lloyd of Vayrol in the county of Flint go in company with the said mr. Price upon the 10th of this instant; and further cannot depose.

THOMAS MADRIN.
WILLIAM WRAY.

RICHARD WYNNE.

Evan Price of Llunedwen in the county of Anglesey, yeoman, aged twenty two years, or thereabouts, upon his corporal oath, deposeth, that upon the 8th day of this instant March, this deponent happened to be at Plusnewydd in the county of Anglesey, to see his brother John Price, a servant of the said mr. Nicholas Bagnall, who desired this deponent to go along with him the next day to Denbighshire or Flintshire to meet his said master; and told him also of an insurrection against the present government was to be that night, to wit, upon the 8th instant, to be about Chester and Wrexham, as Rowland Price of Bodowyr had told and informed John Price; whereupon this deponent being the hired servant of

mr. Hugh Hughes of Pluscoch did, without his master's consent and privity, upon the next day receive a mare of the said Rowland Price, which he this deponent rid in the company of the said Rowland Price, John Price, and one Griffiths ap Rees, a servant to the said mr. Rowland Price, as far as St. Asaph, in the said county of Flint, and from thence rid a white horse, which the said Rowland Price delivered this deponent back again into his hand.

THOMAS MADRIN.
WILLIAM WRAY.

EVAN PRICE.

The mayor of Southampton, &c. to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

UPON notice of the late insurrection at Sarum, we presently put a treble guard upon this town, according to the trust reposed in us as chief magistrates for the use of your highness and the commonwealth; and the 15th instant came hither one captain Martin Jubbs with his company from the deputy governor of Portsmouth, to give us assistance in case of further danger, who was accordingly received with all courteous entertainment; since which the said captain hath required and enforced the keys of the gates from us, by setting a guard upon us this morning in the common council house of this town, until they were delivered; which was indeed refused, unless some warrant had appeared, for that there hath been also some other actions unhandisomely committed, which this bearer mr. Moore being an eye and ear witness unto, will give relation of. We humbly beseech your highness to give us your speedy relief and pleasure therein, and command, if it seem meet to your highness, the removal of the said company from this place; assuring your highness, that we shall without any such trouble and disquiet both faithfully and resolutely, by the blessing and assistance of God, preserve the same for your highness and the commonwealth, with our lives and fortunes, and in all readiness remain

Southampton, March 19,
1654.

Your highness's most humble
and faithful servants,

William Higgons, mayor.	Charles Smith.
William Horner.	Nicholas Brent.
Edward Exton.	James Capelin.
Henry Pitts.	Christopher Walleston.
William Stanley.	Thomas Cornelius.
Henry Ward.	Humphry Rymur.

Capt. J. Griffith to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

HIS highness's commands of the 15th instant, touching the apprehending the lord Willmot, &c. came safe to mr. mayor, in order whereunto I yesterday with a small party of horse seized sir Richard Maleveror, and one mr. John Walters: both were at a gentleman's house about 4 miles from this cytty, and are now in safe custody, to be disposed of as his highness shall hereafter direct. And for the more exact performance of the said instructions, this last night wee most dilligently searched all inns and other lodgings in this cytty, for all suspected persons, but found none, against whom we had any just accusation, other then these two gentlemen formerly mentioned. Sir, in your commission and instructions to the cytty, you have nominated John Whitle and Hugh Leigh, who are both dead, and Thomas Aldersey, who is both unable and unfitt for action. Be pleased therefore, instead of them, to commissionate Edward Bradshaw, Richard Leicester, and Richard Minshull, aldermen. You have also left Thomas Manwaring, esq; and sir Henry Delme, bart. out of the commission for Cheshire; both which are very faithfull and of great interest in the county. I pray you also explaine your meaning to col. Croxton's commission, whether it be intended he shall command the cytty only, or cytty and castle; for the cytty being a county of itselfe, and the castle, although adjoyning thereunto, is in Cheshire; and not being expressly mentioned in his instructions, he desires to be resolved in that particular. He is already come to us, to manifest his readyness and freedome for the publique safetie of the place and nation; and this day, together with the mayor, &c. set themselves to act vigorously in the prosecution of your commands. There

A. D. 1654. are no visible party of the enemy at present in these parts; and all care possible shall be taken for their prevention for the future, that may lye in the power of, fir, your's in all service, whilst

JOHN GRIFFITH.

March 19, [1654.]

These references, which cannot now be sent by mr. Cooke, shall be carefully sent by the first. You may add also in our cytty commission, if you please, William Ince, Robert Harvey, and John Johnson.

J. G.

A letter of intelligence.

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 319.

THIS is the 5th letter I have written to you, without receiving any answer, which gives me greater trouble then it is possible for mee to expresse, not being able to imagine the reason, why you should not thinke fit at least to lett me know your sence of what I offered to you. The proposition I made last was to 17. 40. 2. 12. 19. 41. 29. 43. 19. 5. 25. 2. 31. 36. 12. 3. 11. 25. 35. 39. 37. 28. 36. 40. 42. 12. 37. it being impossible for me to serve your friend soe well at this distance, as I am sure I should doe, if I were in 3. 40. 42. 16. 40. 41. which you may easily conceive, if you consider, that in 158. 40. 26. 35. 7. 28. 36. 41. 19. 35. 34. 12. the 37. 25. 36. 40. 3. 34. 35. 6. 40. 42. 36. 17. 23. 30. 41. 10. 25. every day, and consequently that nothing can be of greater advantage than to be duly advertised of every thinge that passes, I suppose, there can be but two objections against 2. 31. 30. 16. 43. 6. 35. 35. 19. 41. 17. 25. 42. 40. 33. 6. 41. 35. 40. 67. the one an apprehension of 43. 31. 25. 41. 22. 19. 10. 28. 42. in this fixe 130. and the other feared of disatisfying some of your friend's owne party by 34. 36. 35. both which, without doubt, this proposition dos sufficiently answer. I confesse, the more I examine it, the more I wonder what reason your friend can possibly have, not to consent to it, since it dos not admitt of the least shaddow of danger or inconvenience to him; and methinkes too, he should not looke upon me as a man soe absolutely run out of my witts, as that I should voluntarily 35. 7. 37. 40. 33. 2. 31. 36. 12. 3. 26. 25. 6. 41. 35. 40. 36. 34. 17. 23. 19. 17. 40. 42. 16. 28. 35. 6. 40. 42. without being confident, or at least to be able to 22. 12. 25. 40. 11. 26. 19. 10. 30. 31. 41. 12. which I cannot expect to doe but 18. 31. 16. 40. 6. 41. 22. 36. 12. 37. 34. 28. 17. 25. Soe that in my judgement this proposition ought to make him conclude, I finde myselfe able to do him service as well as that I have or deserve to do it. 'Tis true, if cardinal Mazarin were already thoroughly informed of the 18. 40. 35. 35. 40. 2. 25. 40. 26. 35. 23. 6. 36. 130. I confesse then 43. 31. 28. 41. 35. 25. 3. 3. 6. 22. 12. 42. 17. 25. would be of noe use to him, but I am sure that is not the case 35. 7. 12. 2. 40. 36. 35. 17. 40. 42. 36. 16. 25. 37. 30. 18. 3. 12. 39. 25. 37. 36. 41. 41. 36. and 35. 23. 40. 36. 12. 33. 7. 40. 36. 25. 19. 39. 12. 30. 37. 6. 41. 10. 28. 42. This businesse 33. 40. 34. 3. 16. 18. 25. 12. 43. 40. 7. 28. 2. 18. 12. 6. 42. 22. upon my certayne knowledge 41. 30. 35. 35. 30. 21. 25. 42. 41. 40. 35. 28. 17. 25. 40. 26. and 84. 19. 3. 3. 35. 28. 6. 41. 10. 36. Sume 7. 34. 36. 23. 12. 29. 11. 40. 37. 30. 35. 6. 2. 25. yet by 25. 32. 25. 39. 35. those 39. 12. 37. 36. 40. 42. 56. 18. 25. 12. 36. 25. 17. 34. 37. 12. 29. it will 17. 25. 37. 35. 30. 6. 41. 3. 31. 18. 37. 12. 19. 5. 25. 40. 33. 35. 19. 22. 30. 28. 42. 12. there is a flying report at Paris, that he intends to make 30. 39. 47. 40. 10. 37. 12. 36. 56. 25. 19. 3. 40. 34. 25. 37. 67. if that be I am afrayed he is not well advised, at least before 3. 40. 41. 16. 40. 42. 18. 12. 25. 29. 6. 36. 30. 37. 2. 12. 16. then such 19. 28. 40. 34. 37. 41. 31. Party might be usefull 18. 34. 35. 18. 25. 26. 40. 37. 12. Overton 35. 7. 30. 35. troope very destructive; you knowe that 17. 6. 35. 31. parliament will ever give lawe to the whole kingdome, as long as you are master of it, you will easily quell all other opposition is but a little 16. 6. 36. 40. 37. 29. 25. 37. 35. 7. 12. 37. 25. army must prove verry ruinous. Sir, give me leave to be a little positive in this businesse, because I know more of it, than I am confident either you or your friends doe, or perhaps than any body whatsoever, that is not 16. 25. 12. 39. 3. 31. 25. 41. 10. 30. 22. 12. 29. 6. 42. 28. 35. and if you looke upon it as 30. 35. 23. 60. 41. 22. 28. 34. 28. 35. 12. 18. 3. 40. 33. 42. 25. 40. 34. 12. 37. you are infinitely mistaken.

I knowe too that what I have to propose to you is the only 28. 41. 11. 30. 3. 3. 6. 18. 3. 12. 33. 19. 31. 35. 40. 39. 37. 25. 34. 12. 41. 35. 28. 35. 6. 17. 30. 2. 25. 35. 40. 30. 7. 12. 5. 41. 33. 3. 25. 29. 22. 12. 40. 26. 6. 35. 35. 23. 34. 36. 30. 35. 33. 31. 3. 19. 42. 16. 28. 42. 10. 7. 25. 12. 87. 25. 28. mett with one 34. 39. 40. 42. 35. 7. 25. 5. 12. 31. that 21. 41. 12. 33. 43. 25. 12. 33. 23. 40. 26. 28. 42. 16. 6. 41. 22. 2. 25. 12. 19. 36. He thought 36. 35. 25. 30. 3. 28. 42. 10. 82. 67. tooke it immediately for granted in 28.

28. 7. 30. 16. 18. 12. 25. 42. 6. 41. 67. 19. 18. 40. 33. 35. 35. 7. 12. 36. 25. 158. 81. 6. A. D. 1654.
 Perceiving by the 38. 33. 25. 36. 55. 6. 40. 42. 36. 23. 12. 35. 2. 30. 29. 25. 43. 25. 12.
 33. 19. 36. 10. 3. 30. 16. to continue 35. 23. 19. 35. 2. 6. 36. 35. 19. 5. 25. in 7. 28. 43.
 18. 31. 81. 2. 25. 19. 41. 12. 36. 28. gott out 30. 3. 3. 23. 25. 12. 21. 42. 12. 37. 7. 25.
 being 40. 41. 12. 35. 7. 30. 35. 3. 30. 31. 23. 12. 25. 37. 12. employ 25. 16. 19. 18.
 40. 33. 35. Overton, this busines I have here fett downe, the substance of my former
 letters, humbly asking your pardon for sending it you in so blotted a sheete of paper; all
 I shall bege of you is, that you will be pleased to lett me knowe your friend's answer in
 it, as soon as possibly you can; if he approves of this I propose to him, I shall then only
 desire these two things of him, which are both in order to his service, the first, that no
 body may knowe of any designe in this journey, but he, your selfe, and 65. 10. 40. 11.
 26. 12. and the next, that I may be 30. 39. 27. 28. 36. 40. 42. 25. 37. 36. 40. 2. 33. 7.
 12. 37. 25. 6. 41. 3. 40. 42. 16. 43. 41. both to be able to 25. 43. 39. 3. 40. 31. 36. 34.
 27. 23. 28. 42. 36. 35. 37. 34. 2. 12. 41. 35. 36. as will be usefull towards the 37. 19.
 34. 12. 3. 3. 6. 41. 22. 40. 33. 35. 40. 11. 35. 23. 28. 36. 18. 34. 36. 6. 42. 25. 36. 30. 41.
 29. the better to communicate to your friend all that shall come to my knowledge. I con-
 fess I am not able to imagine a reason why this proposition should be refused. However
 I hope at least the having offered it will not make your friend the lesse kinde to me;
 and though he should not thinke fitt to make use of it, yet that notwithstanding he will
 be pleased to favour me soe far, as not to let any body know what it is I have proposed to
 him. Sir, though my stay here hitherto has not beene unusefull to me, in order to the
 service I soe earnestly desire to doe your friend, yet it would be soe for the future, the party
 that was so knowing in this busines being noe more in this place; besides this ayre
 doth not very well agree with me, havinge twice fallene sick since my being here; soe
 that I should be unwilling to stay here any longer than to knowe your friend's pleasure,
 how he would have me dispose of my selfe. Your speedy answer in this will extreemly
 oblige, fir,

Your most humble and faithfull servant,

Callais, March 30, [1654. N. S.]

W. STAMFORD.

M i d d e l b u r g p r i v a t e
 1 is still at 43. 28. 16. 29. 25. 3. 18. 35. 37. 22. 39. 37. 6. 34. 30. 35. 12.

I writ you a long letter in cpiher, which I desired mr. Thomas Whit at Dover to send
 to you, and another by the same addresse, as I remember. Pray be pleased to let mee
 know, whether you have received them or noe.

The same letter decypher'd.

SIR,

THIS is the 5th letter I have written to you without receiving any answer, which Vol. xxiv.
 gives me a greater trouble than it is possible for me to exprefs, not imagining the P. 324.
 reason why you should not think fit at least to let me know your sense of what I offered
 to you. The proposition I made last was to come and make myself the lord protector's
 prisoner, it being impossible for me to serve your friend so well at this distance, as I am
 sure I could do if I were in London; which you may easily conceive, if you consider, that
 in designs of this nature the resolutions change every day, and consequently that nothing
 can be of greater advantage, than to be duly advertised of every thing that passes. I
 suppose there can but be two objections against my admittance now into England; one an
 apprehension of my engaging in this general rising, and the other a fear of dissatisfying
 some of your friend's own party, by using me too well at first; both which without doubt
 this proposition does sufficiently answer. I confess, the more I examine it, the more I
 wonder what reason your friend can possibly have not to consent to it, since it does not
 admit of the least shadow of danger or inconvenience to him; and methinks too he should
 not look upon me as a man so absolutely run out of my wits, as that I should voluntarily
 throw myself into such a condition, without being confident at least to be able to make
 a gain of it, which I cannot expect to do, but by doing the lord protector service. So
 that in my judgment this proposition ought to make him conclude, I find myself able to
 do him service, as well as that I have a desire to do it. It is true, if the lord protector
 were already thoroughly informed of the bottom of this general rising, I confess then my
 intelligence would be of no use to him. But I am sure, that it is not the case; the most con-
 siderable persons, and those, whose appearing in this busines would be most dangerous to
 him, being upon my certain knowledge not taken notice of. And although all things seem
 hushed for a time, yet except those persons be secured, it will certainly break out again.
 There

A. D. 1654. There is a flying report at Paris, that the lord protector intends to make a progress over England; if that be, I am afraid he is not well advised, at least before London be disarmed. Then indeed such a journey might be useful, but before that very destructive. You know that city will ever give law to the whole kingdom. As long as you are master of it, you will easily quell all other opposition, but a little disorder there might prove very ruinous. Sir, give me leave to be a little positive in this business, because I know more of it, than I am confident either you or your friend do, or perhaps than any body whatsoever, that is not deeply engaged in it. And if you look upon it as a thing quite blown over, you are infinitely mistaken. I know an infallible way to prevent it. I came to the knowledge of it thus. At my landing here I met upon the key one that knew me, who finding me stealing, as he thought, from England, took it for granted, that I had been in England about these designs; which I perceiving by questions he made me, was glad to see that mistake in him, by which means I got out all he knew, being one who lay here employed about this business. I here set down the substance of my former letters, humbly asking your pardon for sending it you in so blotted a sheet of paper. All I shall beg of you is, that you will be pleased to let me know your friend's answer in it as soon as possibly you can. If he approves of this I propose to him, I shall then only desire these two things of him, which are both in order to his service; the first, that no body may know of my design in this journey, but he, yourself, and colonel Goffe; and the next, that I may be a prisoner somewhere in London, both to be able to employ such instruments as will be useful towards the ravelling out of this business, and the better to communicate to your friend all that shall come to my knowledge. I confess I am not able to imagine a reason, why this proposition should be refused; however I hope at least the having offered it will not make your friend the less kind to me; and though he should not think fit to make use of it, yet that notwithstanding he will be pleased to favour me so far, as not to let any body know what it is that I have proposed to him. Sir, though my stay here hitherto has not been unuseful to me, yet it would be so for the future, the party, that was so knowing in this business, being no more in this place. Besides this air doth not very well agree with me, having twice fallen sick since my being here; so that I should be unwilling to stay here any longer than to know your friend's pleasure, how he would have me dispose of myself. Your speedy answer in this will extremely oblige, sir,

Calais, $\frac{3}{4}$ March,
1654.

Your most humble
and most faithful servant,

WILLIAM STAMFORD.

Charles Stew. is still at Middleburgh private.

I writ to you a long letter in cypher, which I desired mr. Thomas Whit at Dover to send you, and another by the same address. As I said, pray be pleased to let me know whether you have received them or no.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg, to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 328.

THE intelligence I this day gave mr. secretary Thurloe being of more than ordinary importance, I here inclose a duplicate thereof, under covert to a friend, out of that packet, for the more certaintie of cominge to your highnesse's owne hand; wherein I hope I doe not act unfutable to my truste and dutie, as I am sure I doe not against the bent of my desires, to serve your highness faithfully. I humbly pray your highness, that a commission may be sent to examine witnesses here for the provinge of what I have remonstrated of the deportment of the ill affected of the companie. I have long desired it of mr. secretary; but he is silent. Prayinge the Lord to direct the counsels and endeavours of your highnesse to the frustratinge of all the designs of your enemies, I crave leave to subscribe my selfe

Your highnesse most humble and faithfull servant,

Hamb. Martii 20, 1654.

RICHARD BRADSHAWE.

Mr.

2

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg, to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

I HAVE yours of the 9th, with the inclosed coppies of the petitions and large remonstrances of my supposed injurious dealinge with the companie, to which in due time I shall give such an answer, as will make my adversaries ashamed, if they have not made shipwracke both of shame and conscience. I wish you had beene at leasure to have sent me a commission for the examining of witnesses, and had pleased to let me knowe, if you had presented my addresses of the 9th of Jan. and the 13th of Feb. with the narratives to his highnesse. However I shall not doubt of their being ready to produce, when there shall be tyme to take my adversaries charge into consideration. I am truly glad, you have so farre discovered and secured, as that you apprehend the designe of Ch. Steward and his partie in a faire way of utter disappointment. The Lord assist you to effect it; yet I can assure you, that the people of these partes have other thoughts and expectations. This day a friend, whom I know both loves and honours his highnesse, did, upon engagement to conceal his name, assure me, that the great preparations on foote at present, and in rayfing in the empire, Sweden, Denmarke, and other circumjacent parts, were (if still they be not) intended for the assistance of C. S. against the commonwealth of England. Sir, you know how states used to keep their faith of allyance. I pray God we be not deceived in some of our pretending friends. I trust the Lord will direct your counsells, to frustrate all the expectations of your enemies, who, whilst they wish and seeke your ruine, can give you smooth language enough, and it may be protest as deeply as these disaffected merchants have done in their remonstrance, calling God to witnesse their untruths, with an impudence that faceth heaven.

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
p. 330.

This day an envoy from the prince of Transilvania gave me a visit, passing over land to his highnesse. His name, quality, and the name and titles of his master, you have in the inclosed note. He departeth this day in hast. The common report here at present is, that C. S. is now with the duke of Friesland; but I thinke it is not certainlie knowne, where he is, by any in these parts, that will discover it. From Sweden and Poland, nothing more, than that their arminge goes on, especially in Sweeden. In my last I wrote you of some shippes taken on here to carry soldiers for Gottenburgh, at least soe pretended; and of their beinge againe discharged. Koningsmarke (whom I heare is noe friende to his highnesse) hath great leavies afoote in these parts, for the crowne of Sweaden, both horse and foote. I pray God there be no more in the general arming of all princes and states about you, than only to scuffle among themselves. I like it not, that the French nod so much with their treaty. Some, who thinke they have good intelligence, are of opinion, that France and Spaine are not soe farre from a reconciliation, as may be gathered by their great preparations against the next campagne. If they close, the storme must fall somewhere; but I shall not trouble you further with my apprehensions and conjectures of men; not doubting but the lord will still assist you in the needfull time, as 'tis heartily desired and prayed for by him, that is,

Sir, your very humble servant,

RICH. BRADSHAW.

March 20, 1654.

I am informed, that lord Wilmot, when he passed here *incognito*, was received by the kinge of Denmarke in his owne coach, at Fensburgh. It's said, Waites was with him, and is left an agent there, being a pensioner to that king, Wilmot is in England, as all conclude.

A letter of intelligence.

[March 20, 1654.]

SIR,

IT is impossible for me to serve \odot considerably, without 18. 12. 6. 41. 10. 30. 35. 3. Vol. xxiv. 40. 41. 16. 40. 41. cardinal Mazarin 43. 31. 36. 25. 3. 11. 12. Those who it will p. 340. be necessary for me to employ, towards the 38. 34. 19. 36. 7. 28. 41. 22. 40. 26. 35. 23. 6. 36. 130. being such troopes as I am sure will not 19. 17. 35. 11. 40. 39. 2. 25. 12. 19. 35. 35. 23. 6. 36. 16. 28. 36. 35. 30. 41. 17. 12. 40. 37. without 43. 31. 39. 25. 37. 36. 40. 41. 19. 3. putting them on to it on the other side. I find a great willingnesse in your friends to give 2. 12. 25. 3. 25. 19. 34. 12. 35. 40. 18. 25. 12. 35. 7. 12. 37. 25. which I conceive must needs proceed out of one of these two considerations; either that he

VOL. III.

4 B

apprehends

A. D. 1654 apprehends 6. 2. 19. 31. 7. 30. 34. 12. 36. 40. 43. 25. designe of engaging 30. 22. 19. 6. 41. 36. 35. 23. 6. 43. 28. 41. 35. 27. 29. 36. 130. and see take the 39. 37. 12. 35. 25. 32. 35. 40. 26. having some 35. 7. 28. 41. 22. 35. 40. 36. 19. 31. 35. 40. 23. 28. 2. 40. 41. 3. 81. to render 2. 31. 36. 25. 3. 11. 12. the 43. 40. 37. 25. 17. 19. 39. 30. 18. 3. 25. 40. 26. 29. 40. 6. 41. 10. 23. 28. 2. 7. 19. 37. 43. 25. or else that perhaps the receiving 43. 12. 25. 33. 12. 3. army now might cause a dissatisfaction in some of 7. 28. 36. 40. 33. 41. 25. 39. 30. 37. 35. 31. to satisfy therefore both which, the proposition I shall now make to him is, that he will 30. 16. 43. 6. 35. 40. 26. 2. 12. 25. 35. 40. 18. 12. 25. 7. 28. 36. 39. 37. 6. 36. 40. 41. 25. 37. 19. 35. 3. 40. 41. 29. 40. 41. till these troubles be over, and till I shall have lett him see by the service I intende to do him, whether I be worthy of his favour or noe. This is a demande, which as I am confident was never yet made to any body, foe, which your friend cannot refuse, it being that, which answers all objections in relation to him, and wherein noe body can run a hazard but my selfe; and yet too I am enough confident of your friend's nobleness and generosity, to believe I doe not run any greate hazard in it; neither assuring my selfe he is very uncapable of using any body ill, that really does him a service; and being most certaine I shall in this be able to do him one not of an ordinary nature. I hope at least this will lett you see I am ingenuous, and that I have no double meaning in what I professe; but that my intention is really to serve your friend, and to depend hereafter entirely upon his favour as long as I live. I writt you a long letter by the last post but one, but the packet boat beinge gone before I had made an end of it, I was forced to hire a boate on purpose to carry it to mr. Thomas Whit's, at Dover, desiring him to send it to you with all speed. In that letter I insisted very much upon the havinge some assurance from your friend, that my service should not be forgotten; but the tyme now presses too much to allow of any delay; the newes you writt me word of in your last, of Overton 17. 40. 43. 2. 281. 42. 22. 6. 41. 31. 40. 6. being most certainly true; wherefore what is to be done ought to be done quickly. I shall therefore desire you to shew this letter to frind, and to lett me knowe his pleasure, which way he would have me take to 10. 28. 34. 25. 2. 31. 36. 12. 3. 26. 25. 34. 39. 35. 40. 18. 25. 12. 7. 28. 36. 39. 37. 6. 36. 40. 42. 25. 37. parliament; for I am absolutely resolved upon it, knowing that otherwise the service that I should doe him, would be but lame, and unsatisfactory both to \odot and my selfe; and being as certayne, as it is possible to be of any thinge that is not already happened, that this way I shall be able to 18. 37. 12. 19. 5. 25. liberty 35. 23. 12. 33. 7. 40. 3. 25. 159. The only conditions I shall aske before hand of him are these; first, that I may 18. 25. 12. 19. 39. 37. 6. 36. 40. 42. 12. 37. 28. 42. 36. 40. 2. 25. 39. 3. 30. 17. 25. 6. 41. 3. 40. 41. 16. 40. 42. 33. 7. 25. 37. 12. 28. 39. 43. 19. 31. 85. 35. 23. 25. 7. 40. 42. 40. 34. 37. party 36. 40. 2. 35. 6. 43. 12. 36. 35. 40. 36. 25. 12. \odot and to give begining with 7. 28. 8. 2. 19. 41. 30. 17. 17. 40. 33. 42. 35. 40. 11. 33. 23. 19. 35. 43. 40. 37. 12. Whitehall 40. 26. 35. 7. 25. 39. 12. 37. 35. 6. 17. 34. 3. 30. 37. 36. 40. 11. This 158. 36. 23. 19. 3. 17. 40. 2. 25. 35. 40. 33. 31. 5. 41. 40. 33. 3. 25. 29. 10. 12. and next, that 41. 40. 12. 18. 40. 16. 12. 18. 40. 16. 3. 18. 34. 35. \odot 3. 40. 34. 37. 36. 25. 3. 11. 12. and 65. 22. 40. 11. 26. 12. 21. 41. 40. 33. 12. 6. 17. 40. 2. 25. 37. 7. 28. 35. 23. 12. 37. 83. 19. 42. 6. 41. 35. 12. 42. 35. 40. 41. 40. 26. 18. 12. 6. 42. 10. 43. 19. 16. 25. 30. 39. 37. 6. 36. 40. 42. 12. 37. for 6. 11. 153. 5. 4. 25. 33. 28. 35. 6. should be 3. 12. 36. 36. 25. newes 30. 18. 3. 25. 35. 40. 36. 12. 37. 34. 25. \odot 6. 41. 29. 35. army. These are all the conditions I shall aske 11. 40. 37. 2. 31. 36. 12. 3. 26. 25. before hand, expecting noe grace from your friend, not so much as the 36. 19. 34. 6. 41. 10. 40. 26. 2. 31. 3. 31. 3. 31. 11. 25. Whitehall, if I doe not give him proofs of my usefullnesse, as well as of my affection to his service. I desire the businels be carried foe as that every body may be in doubt, whether 2. 31. 16. 25. 36. 6. 22. 41. 12. 28. 42. 17. 40. 43. 6. 41. 10. 40. 34. 12. 37. 18. 12. 35. 40. 25. 42. 29. 12. 30. 34. 40. 34. 37. 35. 40. 2. 3. 5. 25. 43. 31. 39. 12. 19. 17. 25. 83. \odot 40. 37. 25. 3. 36. 12. 35. 40. 18. 25. 12. 41. 10. 19. 22. 25. 29. 30. 10. 19. 6. 42. 36. 35. 7. 28. 2. 6. 42. 35. 23. 28. 36. 136. wherefore I thinke it very unfitt it should be knowne 35. 7. 30. 35. 33. 19. 36. 28. 33. 23. 40. 39. 30. 36. 36. 12. 6. 19. 35. 29. 40. 34. 12. 37. 18. 31. 35. 7. 25. 1. 30. 2. 12. 40. 11. 42. 25. 34. 12. 3. and consequently improper for me to goe that waye, foe that I conceive it were best for me to 35. 30. 5. 12. 19. 18. 40. 30. 35. 81. 36. 7. 40. 33. 3. 16. 17. 30. 37. 37. 31. 2. 12. 25. 29. 6. 27. 12. 17. 35. 3. 31. 11. 37. 40. 43. 23. 12. 41. 17. 25. 35. 40. 3. 40. 41. 29. 40. 42. 40. 27. 22. 27. 19. 34. 12. 36. 86. 33. 7. 12. 37. 35. meeting 83. 171. \odot 36. 23. 19. 3. 30. 39. 40. 6. 41. 35. 43. 12. 25. 35. 40. 6. shall 35. 25. 3. 7. 28. 2. 6. 19. 43. 17. 40. 2. 25. to speake with Overton, \odot upon which he may have order to 17. 40. 41. 16. 34. 17. 35. 2. 25. 12. 35. 40. 7. 28. 43. after 81. \odot 43. 19. 31. 2. 30. 5. 12. 2. 25. 19. 39. 37. 6. 36. 40. 42. 12. 27. 30. 36. 18. 25. 6. 41. 10. 127. 2. 16. 83. 35. 7. 25. 29. 28. 36. 17. 40. 33. 37. 36. 12. 28. 85. 7. 12. 3. 16. 35. 40. 23. 6. 2.

In fine, let your friend resolve which is the best way, and I shall punctually obey his orders; only I must conjure you to be speedy, for it concerns you perhaps more than you are aware of, I am most entirely,

Sir, your most humble and faithfull servant,

March 20, 1654.

S.

If there be any 28. 42. 35. 25. 12. 62. parliament, that formerly 85. 7. 19. 29. 126. 83. 40. 34. 25. 37. 25. 40. 42. Whitehall, have an eye upon them, for I am most certayne, 35. 23. 30. 35. 7. 25. 12. 19. 41. 16. 33. 12. 37. 25. 30. 22. 37. 12. 25. 29. before 23. 25. 12. 33. 19. 36. 2. 30. 29. 25. 19. 39. 37. 6. 36. 40. 42. 12. 37. 159. 6. 36. 9. 36. 9. 36. 3. 28. 5. 12. 3. 31. 30. 39. 3. 19. 17. 25. 30. 36. 19. 41. 31. 11. 40. 37. 1. 35. 40. 3. 19. 41. 16. 30. 35. I am sure it is 35. 40. 18. 28. 12. 28. 41. 31. 40. 37. 5. 25. 36. 7. 6. 37. 12.

Pray sir be pleased to decypher this letter yourfelfe.

The same letter decypher'd.

SIR,

IT is impossible for me to serve the lord protector considerably, without being at London my self, those, whom it will be necessary for me to employ towards the quashing of this general rising, being such troops, as I am sure will not act for me at this distance, or without my personal putting them to it. On the other side, I find an unwillingness in your friend, to give me leave to be there, which I conceive must needs proceed from one of these two considerations; either because he apprehends I may have some design of engaging against him in this general rising, and so make the pretext of having something to say to him, only to render my self the more capable of doing him harm; or else, that perhaps the receiving me now might well cause a dissatisfaction in some of his own party. To satisfy therefore both which, the proposition I shall now make to him is, that he will admit of me to be his prisoner at London, till those troubles be over, and till I shall have let him see, by the service I intend to do him, whether I be worthy of his favour or no. This is a demand, which as I am confident was never yet made to any body, so which your friend cannot refuse, it being that, which answers all objections in relation to him, and wherein no body can run a hazard but myself; and yet too I am enough confident of your friend's nobleness and generosity, to believe I do not run any great hazard in it; neither assuring my self he is very incapable of using any body ill, that really does him a service; and being most certain I shall in this be able to do him one, not of an ordinary nature. I hope at least this will let you see I am ingenuous, and that I have no double meaning in what I profess; but that my intention is really to serve your friend, and to depend entirely hereafter upon his favour as long as I live.

I writ you a long letter by the last post but one, but the packet boat being gone before I had made an end of it, I was forced to hire a boat on purpose to carry it to Mr. Thomas Whit's at Dover, desiring him to send it to you with all speed. In that letter I insisted very much upon the having some assurance from your friend, that my service should not be forgotten; but the time now presses too much to admit of any farther delays, the news you wrote me word of in your last, of Charles Stuart's coming into England, being most certainly true. Wherefore what is to be done ought to be done quickly. I shall therefore desire you to shew this letter to your friend, and to let me know his pleasure, which way he would have me to take to give myself up to be his prisoner; for I am absolutely resolved upon it, knowing, that otherwise the service, that I should do him, would be but lame, and unsatisfactory both to the lord protector and myself; and being as certain, as it is possible to be of any thing that is not already happened, that this way I shall be able to break the whole design. The only conditions I shall ask before hand of him are these; first, that I may be a prisoner in some place in London, where I may have the honour sometimes to see the lord protector, and to give him an account of what more of the particulars of this design shall come to my knowledge; and next, that no body but the lord protector, your self, and Col. Goffe may know, that I come thither with an intention of being made a prisoner; for if the cavaliers knew of it, I should be less able to serve the lord protector in it. These are all the conditions I shall ask for myself before hand, expecting no grace from your friend, no not so much as the saving of my life, if I do not give him proofs of my usefulness, as well as my affection to his service. I desire the business be carried so, that every body may be in doubt, whether my design in coming over be to endeavour to make my peace with the lord protector, or else to be engaged against him in this general rising. Wherefore I think it very unfit, it should be known, that it was I, who passed at Dover by the name of Nevell; and consequently improper for me to go that way; so that I conceive it were best for me to take a boat, which should carry me directly

A. D. 1654. directly from hence to London, or Gravesend; there meeting one the lord protector shall appoint me, I shall tell him, I am come to speak to the lord protector; upon which he may have order to conduct me to him; after which the lord protector may make me be a prisoner, as being dissatisfied with the discourse I have held to him.

In fine, let your friend resolve, which is the best way, and I shall punctually obey his orders; only I must conjure you to be speedy, for it concerns you perhaps more than you are aware of. I am most entirely,

Sir, your most humble and faithfull servant,

March 20. 1654.

S.

If there be any in the army, that have had correspondence with Overton, have an eye upon them; for I am most certain, that he and Charles Stuart were agreed before he was a prisoner. Hull is as likely a place as any for Charles Stuart to land at. I am sure it is to be in Yorkshire.

Mr. Robert Gay to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 179.

I Comming towards London, overtooke one upon the way, which I conceive by his discourse to be very much disaffected to the present government, and that he had some hand in the late insurrection in the west; and therefore I think it my dutie to present the inclosed information against him to your honour, supposing, that upon examination he will discover something of the said insurrection worthie of your honour's cognisance. Thus humbly craveing pardon for my boldnes, I rest

Your honour's most humble servant,

RO. GAY.

I suppose by my discourse with him then, that he now lodgeth in Sheere lane or thereabouts.

The information of Robert Gay, minister of Nettlecombe, in the county of Somerset.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 180.

THE informant saith, that he, upon occasion of business, came from Somersetshire to London; and as he was coming up upon the way near Bagshot, overtook one mr. Bernard Waite, minister, with whom this informant fell into discourse, and asking the informant, whether he was a clergyman, the informant told him, yes; and then asking where he lived, the informant told him, in the west of Somersetshire. Then mr. Waite said, he was once his neighbour, and was minister of Exford in the said county of Somerset, and his name was Bernard Waite, and had right still to it, but was thrust out of it by col. Pyne; but colonel Pyne was out of favour, and I am much favoured by colonel John Gorges, and I doubt not but by his assistance I shall be placed in the parsonage again; and that he was going to London about the gaining again of his said living, and hoped to obtain it at the next assizes. Upon which discourse this informant knew, that the said Waite (having seen him once before) was a person, which he often heard was reputed to be an enemy, and disaffected to the commonwealth; and thereupon asked him, where he dwelt now: he the said Waite replied, his dwelling was not certain, but for the most part he resided in and about Andover; upon which this informant said, certainly you can make some relation touching those unhappy gentlemen, that lately rose thereabouts; to which he replied, that their unhappiness arose by reason of an error in the king of Scots; for if he had sent them commissions, they might have gone on more courageously; and that then they might have said to the people, wherever they had gone, come, go along with us, we will bring you to your king; we will shew you the face of your king. Then this informant said, why then the people would have said, where is our king? where shall we see his face? Then the said Waite said, they might have said (meaning the cavaliers) he is in the north parts of England; whereupon this informant replied, if he (meaning the king of Scots) were there, he might incur the same misery his father did. Thereupon the said Waite replied, he (meaning the king of Scots) the said king was innocent from crimes, which might endanger his life, or bring him into misery; or words to the same effect. Then this informant answered, that the said king's adversaries would say, that the said king was guilty of high misdemeanors, as by bringing in of the Scots army to Worcester, and fought against the parliament's army. Mr. Waite then said, that he came in as heir of the kingdom, and to seek his own right; all which the informant is

STATE PAPERS OF
JOHN THURLOE ESQ. &c.

281

ready to affirm upon his oath; and his true and cordial affections and faithfulness to the commonwealth hath caused him to make this information, he having actually served in arms against the publick enemy in Taunton and other places. A. D. 1654.

Capt. Unton Croke to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

UPPON my lord protector's letter I immediately sent away mr. John Penruddocke and Francis Jones: within some few howers after I received an expresse from you, clearing any doubt I might make of the person, because their were two of the name in goale; but the considerableness of the person guide me aright. Vol. xxxvi. p. 23.

Sir, I wrote to his highness lately concerning 5 men (who are the most inconsiderable of the company, not one of them being of estate or qualitie as I can learne) to whom I promised, who kept a house against me 4 howers, that I would intercede his highness for their lives. Sir, I shall presse it to you with importunitie, that you will move it to his highness, that soe if any may be thought worthy of pittie as to have their lives, that his favour may extend to those men, though not for their owne sakes, yet in regard of my reputation, because I lye under a promise to them. Sir, hereby you will infinitely oblige,

Exon, March 20, 1655.

Sir, your most humble servant,

UNTON CROKE

Doctor J. Owen to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Heartily thanke you for the account you were pleased to give me of the Lord's gracious dealing in his beginning to manifest himself once more in our behalfe. He is the same, and he changeth not. We are here in a quiet condition. I have raised and now well settled a troope of 60 horse, besides their officers. The towne also hath raised some foote for their defence. We have some persons in custody on verry good grounds of suspicion, and shall yet secure them. There is much riding to and fro in the night in the villages neer us; but as yet I cannot learne any certaine place of their meeting, soe keep a continual guard, and hope that some good service towards the publique peace hath been effected by our coming ourselves: the of the county have mett, are backward and cold, but something we have gotten them to engage for towards the raising of some troopes. Had I a blank commission or two for horse, I could, as I suppose on good grounds, raise a troope in Barkshire, sundry good ministers and others having been with me to assist you to that purpose, if you thinke it necessary to have the worke goe on, as surely it is; at least to engage men in such a citie as this, wherein self-preservation helps on the publicke interest. Pray send me downe one or two commissions to the purpose. One thing I must needs trouble you: there are in Barkshire some few men of mean quality and condition, rash, heady, enemys of tiths, who are the commissioners for the ejecting of ministers. They alone sitt and act, and are at this time casting out on slight and trivial pretences very worthy men; one in especiall they intend the next weeke to eject, whose name is Pococke, a man of as unblamable a conversation, as any that I know livinge, of repute for learning throughout the world, being the professor of Hebrew and Arabicke in our university; so that they do exceedingly exasperate all men, and provoke them to the height. If any thing might be done to cause them to suspend actinge untill this storme be over, I cannot but thinke it would be good servis to his highness and the commonwealth to doe it. Pray, sir, excuse this trouble from

Oxford, March 20,

[1655.]

Your most humble

and fathfull servant,

JOHN OWEN.

A warrant for the securing certain persons.

To the constable of Aylesbury,

WHEREAS William Holland, Nicholas Foster, Robert Ellis, and a Frenchman coming to the towne of Aylesbury, are apprehended upon suspicion of being in this late insurrection; and upon examination cannot give a good account of their business, of the


VOL. III.

4 C

places

Vol. xxiv.

p. 419.

A. D. 1654.  places from whence they came; neither do they agree in their examination of their places of their lodgings in their travels; these are therefore to require you in the name of the lord protector of England, Scotland, and Ireland, safely to keep the bodies of the said William Holland, Nicholas Foster, Robert Ellis, and the Frenchman, until you shall receive order from his highness the lord protector, or his council, or myself, for their deliverance at your perils. Given under my hand and seal this 20th day of March 1654.

This is a true coppie of the warrant.

C. HENN.

Col. Gibbon to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 348.

ON fatterday last I came to Cranebrooke in the Weld of Kent, where I used my interest in such of the well affected as I could meete with, and sent to others, soe that on monday I had in a body three troopes of horse, and ryders for another troope, who came out of their good affection, but had no horses. Of the number that appeared there were divers officers formerly in commission in the county, and of a considerable interest therein; and had it not beene at the affize time, I am confident, I should have had one hundred more there. One thing chiefly to be taken notice of is, that there hath not been such an union amongst honest men of severall judgments in these parts for these many years; for they came in generally, and were very loving and friendly, and resolved to stick together against the common enemy. In my way, as I came, I tooke care with captain Browne of Orpington, that somethinge might be done in those parts, and also at Tunbridge; from which last place I have since received a list of severall horse. I am at present at Maidstone, but by reason of the affizes here shall goe to Canterbury and Ashford, to promote the business there, and in that part of the country.

May it please your highness to take into consideration the burthen, that will be upon the best affected, if they must goe upon their owne charge, which will much discourage them; to prevent which I humbly offer, that your highness will be pleased to grant an order, authorizing us to send to the severall persons formerly charged with horse and armes, to send them in, with pay for them, as they were ordered to doe in the late militia, and which they nowe again looked for; by which means the ill affected will beare the charge as before; and we shall be enabled to putt well affected men to ride their horses, which may be up for as short or as long a time as your highness conceives necessary. I desire to receive your highness's commands therein, as soon as possible, which will much expedite the work, and encourage the well affected. I am,

Maidstone, March 20,
1654.

My lord,
your most humble servant,
ROBERT GIBBON.

The examination of Gilbert Paine in Righton in the county of Salop, taken before me William Crowne, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the said county, this 20th of March 1654, at Shrewsbury.

Vol. xxiv.
P. 349.

SAITH, that thursday night being the 8th instant, there came to his master Thomas Bray's house in Righton one cornet John Tongue, who had sent in by his boy the next morning a case of pistols and a blunderbus to lay up for him; and further saith, that about three weeks before there came to his master's the lord Cherbury, and the lord Newport, and mr. Thornes, and staid in Righton, my lord Newport three days, the lord Herbert five days; mr. Thornes went home every night, and came again the next day, his house being but a mile off: that no other person came to them, as he knew, or what business they had there.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

Gilbert + Paine
his mark.

The examination of Benjamin Newell, of Shrewsbury, in the county of Salop, taken upon oath before me William Crowne, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the county of Salop, this 20th of March, 1654.

DEPOSETH, that about the beginning of March instant, one John Helin, a tenant of A. D. 1654.
 fir Thomas Harris, did carry a trunk from this town to fir Thomas Harris's house; which trunk this deponent did find in a mow at fir Thomas Harris's, the 8th instant, Vol. xxiv.
 having in it seven cases of pistols, and holsters belonging to them, with another that P. 350.
 was empty; and farther saith, that searching one Thomas Bray's house, he found in his mow a blunderbuss, and one case of pistols, which the hostler to the house saith did belong to cornet Tongue, who is thereupon fled. He found, at the same time the pistols were found in fir Thomas Harris his house, a barrel of powder, and some more pistols.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

BEN. NEWELL.

The said John Helin doth depose, that he fetched the trunk aforesaid of Sir Thomas Harris's from mr. George, of this town, to Boreacton, and gave it to mr. Vaughan, the said fir Thomas his bailiff.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

JOHN HELIN.

The examination of Richard Reynolds, of Boreacton, in the county of Salop, aged twenty years, or thereabouts, taken upon oath before me William Crowne, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the said county, at Shrewsbury, March 20, 1654.

SAITH, that on thursday, the 8th of March instant, there was none in fir Thomas Harris his house at Boreacton, but those of his own family; and after being pressed, Vol. xlv.
 confessed, that several strangers were there, viz. mr. Temple, that had been three or P. 351.
 four days there; one mr. White, who came thither on monday or tuesday; mr. Cole, a prisoner at Chester, who was there many weeks; mr. Preston of Rixam, who came there on thursday the 8th instant.

That the same day he was sent by his master, fir Thomas Harris, to his master's bailiff at Levotwood, to bid him to come to him; and hearing, that there was a troop of horse sent down by orders from his highness the lord protector, returned back, and went not unto the bailiff; that he came not into the house, but went immediately to Rixam; that he went to Meale in one hour, but was four hours coming back, and staid not by the way; that he, going from Boreacton towards Rixam, staid at Wike all that night, about a mile from Boreacton, and went not to bed. He saith, that he only drank there, and did not eat. The next morning betimes he went to Rixam, and lighted at the Red Lyon, from whence he went to one Baker's house, where he and captain Baker, and one Davis, living near Elsmore, drank together about half an hour, and after parted. He saith, that he gave captain Baker notice, how that his master, fir Thomas Harris was taken. This examine went into the fair, to sell his horse, who belonged, as this deponent saith, to mr. Paul Harris, fir Thomas Harris's brother. He farther saith, that he had no commission to sell the horse; and that he returned back again to the Red Lyon, where he slept in the stable; and after went to Boreacton by the way of Montgomeryshire, and staid at one Benjamin Vainer's house near the Criggin, to which place he came about two of the clock in the morning, being his kinsman, when neither he nor his wife were at home, being gone abroad, but whither he knoweth not, and saw no body there, but two or three children, and staid half an hour, and then went to Boreacton, where he came on saturday morning before day; he went into the hall by one of the doors, which was open, where he saw no body, but came out presently, and went with his horse into the park, and put his horse to graze, and slept himself under a tree all saturday and saturday night, and the Lord's day, and until monday 5 of the clock in the morning, seeing no body all that time; and then came into the stable, and lay in the bing about an hour, and after went for his horse in the park, and shut him up in the stable; afterwards he went into the house, where he saw my lady, the maid servants, and the groom, who asked him, where he had been, and he told them. About an hour after he was taken by a guard from this garrison.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

Richard [] Reynolds
 his mark.

The

The examination of Thomas Jones of Birchgrove near sir Thomas Harris his park, his father being his tenant, aged 20 years, or thereabouts, taken upon oath before me William Crowne, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the county of Salop, at Shrewsbury this 20th March, 1654.

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
P. 353.

SAITH, that he came to Boreacton house the 8th instant, stayed about a quarter of an hour, saw no body: that while he went thence home again, that he came to this town to enquire for a pye, that was sent for London Christmas last, and came to one Chaulton at the Horse-shoe to demand satisfaction for it. He was the same day taken and brought before the governor, and sent to the castle, where he continued ever since.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

THOMAS [] JONES
his mark.

The examination of William Blanthorne, gent. of Brohill in the county of Salop, taken upon oath before me William Crowne, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the said county, at Shrewsbury, this 20th of March 1654, in the presence of colonel Price, captain Thomas Ball, and captain Thomas Nichols.

Vol. xxiv.
P. 354.

THE deponent saith, that within three months last, Thomas Nevet of Priest Heate offered this deponent to sell him a score of sheep upon this condition, to receive forty shillings in hand, and ten pounds more for them, if king Charles was restored to his crown before our Lady Day next, or else to lose his sheep for the forty shillings. And this deponent further saith, that some certain time before the said Thomas Nevet sold a colt to one William Birchenley, a skinner of Whitchurch, upon the like account, if the king was not restored accordingly within the aforesaid time; and thereupon the colt was delivered. This deponent further saith, that one Parker of Whitchurch told this deponent about the 10th of January last, that there was a carrier come down from London with two or three trunks to some gentlemens houses in the Morelands; whose houses they be this deponent knoweth not; and the lord protector sending down two soldiers to the chief officer at Newcastle, who went with the carrier to see where he left the trunks, and then went to the chief officer in Newcastle on Trent for a warrant; and having searched found them full of arms. And one trunk being so heavy, that they could not bring it down on the horse, was left behind at Blossoms inn in London, and the said Parker told this deponent that they were all undone by reason of the arms.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

WILLIAM BLANTHORNE.

Col. H. Haynes to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 357.

MOST welcome and truly acceptable was the good newes yours by this post gave us heere; even soe lett all the enemies of God and of the peace of the nation perish; and in regard his highness doth yet apprehend they may give us further trouble, I shal be as vigilant as I can to finde out their plottings in these parts, whereof I have not the least footsteps, unless the appointing soe many malignants, and such as have engaged against us of the grand jury for this countye, have any signifcancy in it. The like hath not bin since forty eight, when the ryfing was in the countye; and their busyness past and formed at the assizes. I have notice hereof by verie good hands, and therefore purpose to send one of these troopes heere thither to attend the judges the tyme of their sitting, and shall, God willing, be upon the place myselfe to observe them. All is quyet in Norfolke, where my lord Saint John now is attended with a troope from Norwich, accordinge to former order. The like in Suffolke, where the gentlemen of the new militia intend to meete on the morrow at Burie to carry it on in that countye. When I understand their resolutions, as I am promysed I shall, by two of the gentlemen in that commission, that weare heere to advyse in that affayre, I shall signifie it to you with the first. I exceedingly want direction about the prysoners in custodie. I suppose your sylence bids me continue them under guard; yet the most of them being of the towne, and very poore, I have advysed the mayor to take good security for their peacable demeanor. If I have erred in it, I pray, sir, signifie it in the next, and I'll seize them againe; for they are just under my eye. The inclosed lyst is of such as are apprehended most dangerouse, and to have interest,

interest, being of good estates, and such as were active in the business of Colchester; theise I keepe in my owne custodie in an inne; and would faine discharge myselfe of them, if I might. The regiments of foote and horse have mustered and appeared reasonably full, and the greatest defect was in their arms. They were strictly warned to be in a better readyness at a day's warning; and I am confident will. A few lines from his highnesse to sir Thomas Honeywood, &c. were exceedingly obliging for the future. Major Templer stayed with me in this place, with about 80 horse; and finding noe orders from above, hath discharged his troope, charging them to be at an houre's warning. Noe one whatever will further engage to serve his highnesse and this commonwealth: he merits exceedingly for the stedfastness of his affection and resolution in these wavering tymes. I may not delay you from your more weighty affayres; therefore humbly beg your pardon for theise, and remayne

Your truly affectionate

Colchester, tuesday, 6 at
night, March 20, [54.]

and verie humble servant,

HEN. HAYNES.

Doctor Peirce, now called sir Edward Peirce.

Captain John Lynn, one deeply engaged in the Colchester business, was taken at, and condemned for that action, and after pardoned.

Captain Browne, } { Both captains in Colchester, and gentlemen of considerable estates
Captain Lemon, } { in the country.

March 20, 1654.

The examination of sir Thomas Harris, of Boreacton, in the county of Salop, bart. taken before William Crowne, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the County of Salop, in the presence of commissary general Reynolds, col. Hugh Price, and Humphrey Mackworth, esq; governor of Shrewsbury, Thomas Ball, esq; John Jefferies, esq; high sheriff of the county of Denbigh, and other officers, &c.

WHO denieth, that he knew any thing of any plot concerning the taking of Shrewsbury, Vol. xxiv. nor any other plot to disturb the publick peace, but saith, that upon the thursday p. 359. he this examine was taken, he sent his foot-boy to one Hodgkies, this examine's servant, at Leebetwood, and no where else; but whether he had a horse or not, this examine knoweth not, but denieth that he sent him to any other place; and before his, the said foot-boy's return, he this examine was apprehended, and never saw him since; and the foot-boy's business was only to bid the said Hodgkies come to speak with this examine.

The re-examination of Thomas Armstrong, esq;

WHO saith, that it is true, he went by the name of White and Armstrong, and saith, the reason thereof was a fancy of his own; but denieth, that he ever named himself Love, or owned that name; and the occasion of his coming to this country was to see his friends; and doth absolutely deny, that he knew any thing of any plot against the lord protector or this commonwealth; and further saith, that after his coming to Boreacton, he bought a bay mare of sir Thomas Harris, which cost him twenty pounds, but denieth, that he had any discourse with the said sir Thomas Harris about any plot whatsoever.

The examination of sir Thomas Harris, of Boreacton, in the county of Salop, knt. taken before Humphrey Mackworth, esq; governor of Shrewsbury, and William Crowne, esq;

WHO being asked, where he was upon thursday last, he saith, that he was all the day at home, save a little time in the morning, that he rode abroad to take the air; but denieth, that he was that day at a place called Llanamuny; and saith, that upon monday before he overtook mr. Ralph Kynafton at Mountford bridge, where he found one mr. Cole, who was a prisoner at Chester, and then was upon his parole, for that he

A. D. 1654. had been taken, when the forces went to Worcester with the late king of Scots; and no man else. And then mr. Kynaston and mr. Cole went from thence with this examine to his own house at Boreaston, and remained there all night; and the next morning mr. Kynaston went from thence; but what became of mr. Cole, unless he went to Chester, this examine knoweth not. And further saith, that the same monday night mr. Kynaston, of Ottley, and one mr. Thomas Armstrong, who upon his apprehension called his name White, came to this examine's house, and lay there all night likewise; and that the same day he met with the said mr. Armstrong at Cundover, at an alehouse, by his the said mr. Armstrong's appointment, who had before agreed to meet there, or at Shrewsbury. And this examine and he thence went to Boreaston; but saith, that there was no other company with them, but one mr. Owen, one of sir William Owen's sons, and col. Screven. And farther saith, and denieth, that he saw, or sent to, or heard from, Ralph Kynaston, since the time that he went from his house upon tuesday morning last; but denieth, that there was ever any agreement between the said Ralph Kynaston and him the examine touching any rendezvous whatsoever; neither did he know of any rendezvous, that the said Kynaston had, or was to have. And further saith, that at the time he was apprehended, his own horses were saddled, for that he intended to ride to take the air that afternoon. And being asked concerning the pistols and powder and suit of arms, that were found in this examine's barn, he saith, that the same were left there, since one lord Byron was there, which was about the time that duke Hamilton, that was beheaded, came with an army into England.

THOMAS HARRIS.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

The examination of Thomas Armstrong, esq; of Nymingham in Gelderland in Holland.

WHO saith, that on friday was seven-night he came forth of London, from King-street in Covent-garden; and that there was no company with him but his boy; and that night he came to an inn beyond St. Albans; but the name of the town this examine knoweth not; and from thence he rode to Daintry, where he took post; and saith, that upon the road, about Brickhill, he met with mr. Montgomery, and another gentleman of the Temple, whose name he knoweth not, and they took post likewise there with him. And the said mr. Montgomery came along to Shrewsbury with the examine, and alighted upon sabbath day at night last at the sign of the Rose and Crown, he having a pass to ride from the mayor of Coventry; and went from thence unto Cundover, where he met with sir Thomas Harris, and some of his servants, which stood bare, and one other gentleman, who was covered; but this examine doth not know his name; and from thence this examine and sir Thomas Harris went to his house at Boreaston that night, where he found one mr. Kynaston, a tall man, with a lean face, and a Roman nose; but did not see him afterwards. And the occasion of his this examine's coming into the country was, to see a mistress. And farther saith, that he did not know of any rendezvous, or any design at all, concerning the taking of the castle of Shrewsbury, or other disturbance of the publick peace.

THOMAS ARMSTRONG.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

The examination of William Eyton, of Oretton, in the county of Flint, gent.

WHO saith, that upon monday last he went with sir Thomas Harris to Cundover, and met with no person at all there, not col. Screven; but saith, that he did see mr. White there, and mr. White and sir Thomas Harris, and this examine, and no body else, went that night to Boreaston; neither did there any company, that went with them that night, meet them by the way; and denieth that he was ever sent upon any message from sir Thomas Harris to mr. Ralph Kynaston. And farther saith, that he doth not know of any strangers that were at Boreaston this week, save mr. White and mr. Kynaston, of Ottley; and denieth, that he did know of any design or rising in this county, or against the garrison of Shrewsbury; or that he did know of any arms or ammunition, that sir Thomas Harris had in his house, or that came down to him lately from London.

WILLIAM EYTON.

The examination of Richard More, of Lindley, in the county of Salop, esq;

WHO faith, that upon thursday morning last he went from his house at Lindley to Boreacton, fir Thomas Harris his house, and the occasion of his going thither was to see fir Thomas Harris, and did intend to return to his own house at Lindley that night; and told his wife so, and had appointed business of his own for that end; and denieth, that he knew of any design or rendezvouz to the disturbance of the publick peace; and faith, that when he came to Boreacton, he met with fir Thomas Harris, and one that was called mr. White, and a brother of fir Thomas Harris's, and no other strangers, and that he this examine was not above two hours or thereabouts before he was taken at fir Thomas Harris's house, neither did he bring any pistols at all with him thither.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

RICHARD MORE.

The deposition of Humphrey Thomas of Randregunwe, in the said county, yeoman, taken at Welch Pool the 21st day of March, 1654, before Thomas Lloyd, esq; high sberiff of the said county, and Edward Allen, esq; one of the justices of the peace of the said county, on the behalf of the commonwealth, touching the late plot contrived to raise forces against the lord protector and the present government. Montg.

WHO deposeth, that upon tuesday the 16th day of March, 1654, one Joseph Jones, brother-in-law to mr. Ralph Kynaston of Pentrehelin, came to this deponent, and told him, that mr. Ralph Kynaston would fain speak with him; and immediately this deponent went to the said mr. Kynaston's house, and the said mr. Kynaston did ask this deponent, whether he would venture along with him; and this deponent did ask him whither; the said mr. Kynaston told him he should know upon thursday night following, for all the gentlemen in the counties were to rise up; and this deponent hearing, that the gentlemen in every county were to rise up, there struck a terror in him, so that he did verily believe, that they had a bad design in hand, to raise forces against the lord protector and the present government; and thereupon this deponent refused to go along with the said mr. Kynaston, although the said mr. Kynaston did earnestly pers this deponent to go along with him; but seeing he did refuse, the said mr. Kynaston earnestly wished him to keep it secretly; and further is not required to depose.

THOMAS LLOYD.
EDWARD ALLEN.HUMPHRY [] THOMAS
his mark.

The deposition of Edward Powell of Llandrinio in the said county, yeoman, taken before us the time and place aforesaid, touching the said plot.

WHO deposeth, that upon the wednesday the 17th day of March, 1654, mr. Ralph Kynaston of Pentrehelin sent his servant, called Edward Rogers, to this deponent, desiring him to come to speak with the said mr. Kynaston: this deponent told him, he was not at liberty to come without his master's consent, because he was a hired servant; but this deponent having leave of his master, went to the said mr. Kynaston's house the same day; and the said mr. Kynaston asked this deponent, whether he would go for him a little way on thursday night following, and he told him he was not at liberty to go without his master's consent; and further said, that upon thursday in the morning mr. Kynaston sent one Edward Edwards his servant unto this deponent, to tell him that he needed not to come to mr. Kynaston, because he had gotten another to go in his stead. This deponent further faith, that he heard by Griffith Evans of Llandrinio upon friday following, that John Penryn of Llandrinio's wedding was to be upon thursday night; and the said Griffith Evans of Llandrinio told this deponent, that he was invited to the said wedding, but said they did miss of the wedding, because the bride's gown was not ready.

THOMAS LLOYD.
EDWARD ALLEN.EDWARD [] POWELL
his mark.

The

The deposition of Arthur Gardner of Tretherwen in the said county, yeoman, taken before us the time and place aforesaid.

A. D. 1654.

DEPOSETH, that upon the 7th day of March, 1654, about one of the clock this deponent was at John Thomas's of Tretherwen aforesaid, where he saw Thomas Rogers and Arthur Vaughan and several other persons; and the said Arthur going forth of the said house, the said Thomas Rogers called unto the said Arthur to make haft back again; this deponent overhearing demanded of the said Rogers, why he said so; Rogers said unto this deponent, that to morrow, being the 8th of March, 1654, he was to go to the greatest meeting that ever thou didst hear of, meaning this deponent; and within a short time there would be the greatest news that ever was heard of; and within an hour or thereabouts the said Arthur Vaughan came back, and the said Arthur and Rogers went away together about twelve of the clock towards Manymynick; and in the evening of the said day this deponent went into Manymynick into the house of David Humphreys, where this deponent saw the said Arthur Vaughan and Thomas Rogers, with one Owen Bray, and divers other persons, which this deponent doth not know, nor can call to remembrance, but there were many horses in the stable of the said house; and further is not required to depose.

THOMAS LLOYD.
EDWARD ALLEN.

ARTHUR GARDNER.

The examination of Thomas Jacob.

March 21, 1654.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 362.

THOMAS Jacob, of Warrington, professor in Surgery, being examined, further freely confesseth and saith, that upon Sunday, being the 11th of this instant, he went along from Warrington to Wigan, about eight of the clock at night, with a gentleman, a stranger, that called himself Mr. George Liffon, and who came post out of Yorkshire, and left his horse at Mr. Hotham's, the parson of Wigan, and had a horse from Mr. Hotham, with which he rode many miles up and down the country, in pursuance of raising some tumults in the country. And this examine further saith, that the said Liffon was at Mr. Green's, at Warrington, with several gentlemen there, one of which was called Moore, and they had several conferences, how to raise forces privately; and that they held correspondence with the cavaliers party in Yorkshire, who were at that time upon point of rising, and for that end engaged this examine to go along with Liffon, and to lie at a convenient post of intelligence betwixt them, who promised them so to do, provided they would furnish him with horse and money, which they did; whereupon this examine went along with Liffon to Wigan, where Liffon took his own horse, which had rested at Mr. Hotham's; and the said Liffon called Mr. Hotham uncle, and this examine hired a horse at Wigan, and went along with the said Liffon; and at Skipton upon Craven this examine staid, whilst Liffon went into Yorkshire; and after a few days this examine received a letter from Liffon, in two lines, "Sir, you may return, for the business is done;" and wished him to acquaint the said Moore with the same; whereupon this examine returned to Warrington, but found not the said Moore nor the other gentlemen there; but then, according to agreement, he went to the alehouse at St. Ellen Chapel, where at present that Moore was not, but shortly after come thither, whom he acquainted with the premises, with which Moore was very greatly troubled, and said, he was undone, and knew not whither to go. And further this examine saith, that the said Moore had been with some gentlemen towards Ormskirk, but whom he knew not; and that there had been several meetings of them in Cheshire, upon the same occasion; and that this Liffon had been towards Caddishea-green with some there.

Taken before

G. IRELAND.
Jo. FOXE.

The examination of John Evanston of Shrewsbury, gent. taken upon oath, before William Crowne, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the county of Salop, commissary general Reynolds, &c. March 21, 1654.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 366.

WHO saith, that he being sent by the governor of Shrewsbury with a party of horse to Sir Thomas Harris his house at Boreacton, upon Thursday the 8th of this instant, did alight from his horse, intending to go into the said house; and one of the soldiers in

in the same party gave an alarm, and said that they were running, whose name, as this examine hath heard, was Benjamin Newell; and thereupon he this examine made good the gate of the court, and then sir Thomas Harris was brought by captain Buttry, who commanded that party, to this examine, who did thereupon tell the said sir Thomas Harris, that he this examine must search his pockets; and thereupon he the said sir Thomas Harris carried himself as if he intended to make an escape; whereupon a soldier, that was of the party with this examine, came to the said sir Thomas Harris, and said, that if he would not be civil, he would cut him. Thereupon the said sir Thomas Harris said, you have given me fair quarter, and I hope you will not abuse me now, or words to that effect; and then this examine said, that then he going into the stable of the said sir Thomas Harris at Boreacton, found about eighteen horses ready saddled, many of the saddles being then on the horses backs, and fitted for pistols, and then having seized on the said sir Thomas Harris, and about six more, they mounted, and went away presently; and further cannot depose.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

JOHN EVANSON.

The examination of capt. John Buttry, taken upon oath.

WHO saith, that being sent out upon a party, upon the 8th of this instant, whereof this examine and another were appointed commanders, and coming to sir Thomas Harris's house, the first person, he this examine met with, was sir Thomas Harris's man, who told him, that sir Thomas was within the said house; and immediately thereupon, one Benjamin Newell, one of the party sent with this examine, gave an alarm, and said, here, here they are running away. And upon that, this examine wheeled about with his mare, and then saw sir Thomas Harris, and one Eaton, in a close near the said sir Thomas Harris's house at Boreacton. Whereupon this examine made up to them, and commanded them to come to him; and at first they would not come; but afterwards he this examine threatening to shoot them, sir Thomas Harris came over a stile to this examine, and there yielded himself to this examine; and the said Eaton fled into a barn near adjacent, and then immediately offered to fire a pistol at this examine. And thereupon this examine did fire his pistol at the said Eaton; and then immediately the said Eaton clapped the barn door, and before this examine could draw his rapier, the said Eaton came with a case of pistols, and presented them unto him this examine, being ready cocked, charged, and primed, and did present them at him; and this examine making a pass with his rapier against the said Eaton, he immediately cried for quarter, and delivered himself and his arms into this examine's hands; and the pistols, that he this examine took from the said Eaton then there, were engraven upon with the letters H. Barne, London; the pistols being three in number; and upon the delivery of the said pistols by the said Eaton into this examine's hands, he desired him this examine to mount the said pistols, for that they were charged and cocked. And further this examine saith, Benjamin Newell and one George Doughty, going into the barn of the said sir Thomas Harris, they found in a trunk about six or seven case of pistols, and one suit of new arms, back, breast and gantlet, as this examine hath heard.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

JOHN BUTTRY.

The examination of Capt. Thomas Fox, taken upon oath, before William Crowne, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the county of Salop, March 21, 1654.

WHO saith, that he being sent for, the 8th of this instant, by the said col. Crowne, Vol. xxiv. upon the notice to him given of the plot now discovered, to come to this town p. 369. of Shrewsbury to him, to bring in what friends he could for the service of the commonwealth and preservation of the garrison of Shrewsbury; and the next morning the governor col. Mackworth, governor of Shrewsbury, sent this examine with a party to sir Thomas Harris's house, and searching his house, in his study they found a new pair of bullet moulds, and about three or four handfuls of pistol bullets newly made, and the bullet moulds also newly made, lying upon an high shelf in the said sir Thomas Harris's study; and further saith not.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

THOMAS FOX.

Captain Buttry deposeth and saith, that the bullets above mentioned in the said captain Fox's deposition, and found in his the said sir Thomas Harris's closet, are fit for the pistols, that he then and there broke open, upon which the letter H. Barne is engraven.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

JOHN BUTTRY.

R. Lechmere to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
P. 370.

SINCE the attempts at Salisbury wee of this county did hope for some commands from his highnes, for the posturing of this county for preservation of the honest interest here, and for the quenching of the like flame, if it should (and that not improbably) have broken out amongst us. Here are many honest hearts and hands entire to the present government, which wanted nothing but directions; and yet thought it theyr duty to appeare in securing the persons and horses of such as might probably bee dangerous: but since it hath pleased God in much mercy to remove the present danger, by suppressing that insurrection in the West, and by dispersing others elsewhere, we are now at a stand, and doe proceed noe farther, unlesse particular commands doe come unto us for it. Wee are here at present in much quiet and seeming security. The companies of foote wee have in this towne under the command of major Eaton, and the other forces in the counties round about us doe the worke for us. Yet if his highnes shall thinke fit to command any thinge of the inhabitants of this county, his highnes will find here many ready and chearefull servants, and amongst them

Worcester, March 21, 1654.

Your very humble servant to be commanded,

R. LECHMERE.

P. 371.

Captain Thomas Boonde, of Upton on Severne, in the county of Worcester, can raise a troop of horse.

Shropshire
ff.

The examination of Jeremiah Bromefield, taken before William Crowne, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the county of Salop aforesaid, March 21, 1654. as followeth.

Vol. xxiv.
P. 372.

WHO upon oath faith, that he being one of the party, that was sent out from the town of Shrewsbury, to fetch in fir Thomas Harris, went into the barn of the said fir Thomas Harris at Boreacton, out of which came one Eaton with a pair of pistols, and where this examine, with one George Doughty, of the said party, found two trunks hidden in the straw, out of which they took seven cases of new pistols ready fixed and holsters, and one suit of special armour, back, breast, head piece, and gauntlet, and one little firkin of gunpowder. And further deposeth, that the pistols now shewed unto this deponent, being taken out of the hand of the said Eaton by captain Buttrey, at the barn aforesaid, upon which is engraven, H. Barne, London, and upon the little ones, H. B. this deponent did see there as aforesaid.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

The mark of
JEREMY [] BROMEFIELD.

The deposition of Francis Gough, of the town of Shrewsbury, in the county of Salop, taken before the said William Crowne, esq; March 21, 1654.

WHO deposeth and faith, that Edward Trustan and others being brought prisoners to this town of Shrewsbury upon saturday afternoon last from Maelbrooke, the said Edward Trustan sent one James Bayley, a soldier, to this deponent, upon sabbath day following, for this deponent to come and speak with the said Trustan; which this deponent did, as soon as he had dressed himself; and being come into the room where the said Trustan was prisoner, the said Trustan told this deponent, that Thomas Rogers, near Flunagoh, a neighbour of the said Trustan's, went to Thomas Davies, of Flunagoh aforesaid, to borrow a saddle and bridle of him, who at first denied the lending him of any; but when the said Rogers told the said Davies, it was for king Charles his service, and for the design of taking the town of Shrewsbury, the said Davies bid the said Rogers take the said bridle and saddle; and if that he the said Rogers had no horse, the said Davies bid the said Rogers take any horse he had, he having half a dozen; and that if the said Davies were not lame, he would go himself. And Nathaniel Rogers, being a prisoner with the said Edward Trustan, told this deponent, at the same time, before the said Trustan, that the said Rogers sent, about a day or two after fir Thomas Harris was taken prisoner, to Thomas Davies aforesaid, to fetch home his saddle; and accordingly the said Thomas Davies sent his son Edward Davies for the bridle and saddle unto the said Rogers's; which Nathaniel Rogers aforesaid saw the said Edward Davies

Davies going homeward with it over the field; but this deponent was not told by any of them, from whence it came. And this deponent further saith, that the said Trustan informed this deponent, that one John Clarke of Maesbrooke, John Davies, alefeller there, and the aforefaid Thomas Rogers, were all enlisted under Ralph Kynaston's command. And further this deponent saith, he went upon monday morning following to see the said Trustan and Rogers again, who asked this deponent, if the said John Clarke, John Davies, and Thomas Rogers, were yet brought in; this deponent replying, no, but that they were gone out for; and further saith not.

FRANCIS GOUGH.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

Col. Robert Gibbon to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

I HAVE sent this by the bearer, captain Browne, who can give an account to his highness of my proceedings in the business that I was sent down into the country about. I finde the honest people willing to engage against the common enemy, then was expected; but the great question is among them, how and by whom the charge shall be borne; not but that they will upon any exigent be ready to manifest their good affection to the utmost of their ability. It is apprehended by many of the well affected, that the settling of the militia in some of their hands, where formerly it was, with some addition of new ones, might conduce much to the peace and safety of the county, and speedy rayfing of the intended forces. According to his highness's order, to morrow, God willing, I shall be at Canterbury, and from thence shall goe into other parts of this county, to try the honest people there, and see how they stand affected. Those, with whom I have been, as having had an opportunity to speak with many in this place, have it generally in their mouths, let them bear the burthen, who are the occasion thereof. All which is left to his highness's consideration by,

Sir, your humble servant,

Maydstone, March 21, 1654.

ROBERT GIBBON.

Mr. J. Gunter to mr. Goffe.

SIR,

MY addresses to the master of the rolls for his certifficat was to bee used att Hereford sessions last, on a tryall which highly concerned my reputation. But blessed bee God, whoe hath vindicated my innocency. The tryall went for me. Sir, I desire you to present my service to the honourable the master of the rolls, whoe I hope will be mindfull of me, in case any thing bee concluded on concerninge the office before I retorne to London. I am further to acquaint you, that the Anabaptists doe daily rendezvouze and list themselves in theis parts, under pretence to act for the lord protector; but the country doe not understand of any commissions they have from his highnes; and the persons listed doe declare, theire designe is to release Harrison, &c. All which may bee well worthy of consideration. I have noe more to trouble you att this tyme, but only to conclude with the subscription of,

Sir, your oblidge freind and servant,

Brecon, Martis 21, 1654.

JOHN GUNTER.

Remember the petition betweene Birt and Bowen. You may direct your letter to me per poast, to bee left at mr. John Williams's, mercer, in Hereford. I should take it a greate favour from you, if you would spare a lyne.

Col. Birch is secured, and divers more, whoe have allwayes appeared faithfull to the parliament; and there is a garrison kept at col. Birch's howse by a company of Anabaptists.

The superscription,

These for his honoured freind, mr. Goffe, secretary
to the honourable the master of the rolls, London.

Mr.

Mr. Daniel Clenche, &c. to the protector.

MY LORD,

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
P. 377.

MAY it please your highness, according to the commissions and instructions sent us, we had a meeting at Edmundsbury this day, in order to the settling of the militia of our county; and we have formed three regiments of foot and one of horse. A list of the field officers and captains is here inclosed. The colonels of foot are, col. Fothergill, col. Harvey, and col. Brewster; and the colonel of horse is col. John Moody; the which choice if your highness shall please to approve, we humbly crave, commissions may be sent down for their field officers at least, and for all the captains of horse; for as yet none have commissions sent them, but col. Fothergill and his field officers. We have given orders for the present muster of the several companies of col. Fothergill's regiment of foot, and for the several troops of horse; as also we have appointed a general muster of col. Fothergill's regiment, and of the regiment of horse, to be at Bury the 12th of April next; and shall be always ready to observe and obey to the uttermost of our power such orders and instructions, as we shall from time to time receive from your highness, that we may in all things approve ourselves, my lord,

Your highness's and the commonwealth's

Bury, March 21, 1654.

most devoted servants,

Daniel Clenche,
John Fothergill,
Samuel Moody,
Robert Sparrowe,James Calthorpe,
Gibson Lucas,
John Clarke,
Richard Maltbyward.*Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.*

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 378.

I Presume the late risings in England prevented my hearing from you the last post. Wee have not as yet (through mercy) any disturbance here considerable, which is more than an ordinary mercy to us at this time. I am perswaded the hearts of all the Lord's people are much enlarged with earnestness to seeke his face in this affaire; and a gracious returne I trust wee shall have; and if it teacheth us wherein any of us have failed in our dutie, and that it would please the Lord to make this a meanes for the uniting of his people, what a mercy would it be! I cannot but be confident, the Lord will carry on his worke, which he hath so signally owned; and the Lord may reprove us for our unfutable walkings to all his gracious dealings, ye the Lord will witness against this sort of men, and owne his righteous cause; and therefore it is a time to looke within, so as to lye low before the Lord in the sense of our owne unworthyness; yet are wee in faith and humilitie to waite on him, whose presence hath and wil be our strength. It is mercy, when the Lord shall take us of from trusting in an arme of flesh, and make him our only confidence. I knowe this goverment hath many excellent things in it; but were there no more, but that one thinge of an equall regard to all the Lord's people without imposition, it were sufficient to satisfie mee concerning it; and confident I am, so long as the Lord keeps my lord protector on that principle, he will prosper.

March 24, 1654.

Your very affectionate

and humble servant,

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

Col. Haynes to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 385.

SINCE my last I have received an account out of Norfolke, that colonell Jeremy hath mustered part of his regiment, and hath given orders for the muster of the rest. They intemate, that his highness hath directed them to receive instructions from me, whereof I not having the least hint from any one above, I have suspended to give answers therein. The garyson at Lynne intemate, they expect the like. Favour me one word to that I pray. The officer, that commands our troopes at Norwich, informeth, that there are 200 musketts well fixed in the cyty magazine, and 300 in the country magazine, with 10 peice of cannon, and many other instruments of warr; besides many hundreds of armes in

in private hands, pressing an order what to doe in order to their security. I have write A. D. 1654. to him to desyre the mayor to have a speciall regard to those partayninge to the cyty, and the rest that they keepe a guard upon, till they shall receive order therein from his highnes. This place is noe way safe in itselfe, there being noe foote. In this also please to lett me know his highnes pleasure. There are many horse armes backes, and breasts in the magazine at Lynne, which would also be taken care of by the officers of foote in that towne. I understand also, that our officers have secured neare twenty cavaleirs of that county, and know not what to doe with them, being forced to keepe guards at severall inns, where they lodge. I presume some garyson were fitter for them, if security may not be taken on their behalfe. I have appointed a cornet of this regiment to wayte your directions in these things. Soe I remayne,

Colchester, March 22, Thursday
6 in the morne.

Sir, your verie humble servant,

H. HAYNES.

I have sent mr. Brinne up with a party of horse, not having any heere, that would be security for him.

Chanut, *the French ambassador in Holland, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.*

Hague, April 2, 1655. [N. S.]

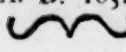
I DID engage myself eight days ago to assist at the devotions of the church, before I Vol. xxiv. had satisfied what I ought to you; and I did not perceive my fault, till that it was P. 391. too late, for I could not come away without giving some little scandal. I do presume, that you will easily pardon a trespass, that is committed upon a day of pardon; and the sooner, because there was not much to write at that time. It cannot be denied, but that the affairs at home do sufficiently occupy the lord protector; but the resolution of your affair only depending upon the sole motion of his will, being enough informed of the business, it cannot be that want of time and leisure should retard your last audience. I conceive, and am of opinion, that unless you press on your part, they will find out ways to keep you where you are. I cannot believe, neither do you give me it otherwise than as a discourse, that the lord ambassador hath undertaken to offer up the forces of the king his master in Flanders to the lord protector; and if he do it, the lord protector will receive that compliment as a piece of the theatre. It is you, my lord, that do shew an affection of a real perseverance in endeavouring to make peace with him at a time, when the clouds do gather together, prognosticating some storm to befall him. I am of your opinion, that those little insurrections will make for his establishment.

The lords of Holland do very much fear, that some inconvenience will happen to their trade, if our accommodation be not made. The wisest, when they speak with me, do confess, that the said difficulty, which you make, is invincible; that they must give you satisfaction therein; but withal that it is likewise to be considered, that it came too late, and after you were agreed. I do not want of pertinent answers for them as to that. That which you write me of the ambassador of Spain doth cause me to tell you, that Don Estevan de Gamarra hath not seen the princess royal, to whom he only sent his son with a compliment. Every one doth admire at this omission in so civil and courteous a man as he is, especially with the ladies; and it is thought, that it is out of complacency to the lords of Holland, or it may be through respect to the lord protector. I have here inclosed sent you a copy of the letter, which the lords of Holland sent to the princess royal, upon the report that was here, that the king of England was at Teyling. She returned no answer in writing, but said only to the messenger, that the king her brother was not at Teyling. Now we do not certainly know where he is. Many English say, that he is gone for England; but I cannot believe it, and it doth seem, that the lady princess his sister did speak to me in such terms as ought to give me this opinion.

In these provinces the divisions in the provinces of Overijssel do not tend to an accommodation. Yea, it is believed, that both parties will at last so irritate one another, that they will come to open arms. The province of Holland doth seem to be disposed to assist Deventer against the other party, which hath chosen the prince of Orange for governor, and prince William for lieutenant.

The inclosed is from the lord D'Avangour, who will advise you the news of Sweden.

I had a letter from Rome of the 13th of the last month, where nothing was then done for the election of a pope; and the ambassador of Spain had had audience of the cardinals,

A. D. 1654  nals, to let them know, that the design of the marquis of Caracena in his march against Modena was only to make him declare upon the levies, which the said duke doth make. Upon the next day monsieur de Lyonne was to have the like audience, to inform the conclave, that the said marquis doth demand of the duke a place of surety in his territories.

Col. Haynes to secretary Thurloe.

EVER HONOURED SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 388.

THE inclosed gives you a full account of the success of the gentlemen's meeting at Burie about the putting the said county into a posture of defence. I doubt not, but you'll have them in as good a redyness as any of these countyes of Norfolk and Essex. It was delivered to me by col. Fothergill, whose forwardness in this action deserves a particuler character of respect. Truly he is verie honnest, and of good interest in the partes he lives in. If his highness please to sende the commissione desired, it will much encourage: however they seeme resolved to proceed to their musters both of foote and horse. Noe more, but to assure you, all is quyet in these parts, and remaine,

Colchester, March 23, 1654.
friday about 7 at night.

Sir, your verie humble servant,

HE. HAYNES.

Robert Duckenfield to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 386.

I Received you lordship's commission for a horse regiment on the last Lord's day, and sent an answere theiirto immediately; but the messenger was gone before from Chester towards London, which occasioned these lynes, to give your lordshipp an accompt, that I dare not as yet accept of the said commission, for many reasons; first because my endeavours this way formerly, though verry successfull, have beene taken in ill part; and this county especially is soe wonderfully impoverished, as without destroying of it, not many souldiers can be raised theiir in the way you intend.

2. Because that the extreames that the levelling party do run furiously upon, doth, as I humbly conceive, drive your highnes upon direct contrary extreames; and I desire to imitate Caleb and Josua in the wilderness, as neare as may be, and not to seeke a confederacy with those, who limitt God to their passions, and against whom God hath an evident controversy, &c. I beleive firmly, that the roote and tree of piety is alive in your lordship, though the leaves theiir of, through abundance of temptations and flatteries, seeme to mee to be withered much of late; yet I hope time and experience will have a good influence upon your lordship (*Deo juvente*) &c.

I praise the Lord for his extraordinary mercy to mee this way, that I am not much moved with the actings of men, though of the better sort; nor doe I regard preferment much. Yet to doe this commonwealth a pleasure, I am content to leave my private and obscure condition, wheirwith I am much delighted, for a season to accept of some handsome military command, if your lordshipp thinke well theiir of; soe as the men that I serve with may not be cast of afterwards unrequited; and that they be selected in the best way from such, as be your superficiall and dissembling freinds, whom I know well, and will have little to doe with them, unless forced theiirto. I am not affraid of my life, or estate, and to improve the talent I have, I should be glad to serve your lordship in any forraine war within the continent of Europe, rather then within this nation.

I humbly conceive further, that these remote corners of this nation are soe corrupted of late, by the subtilties of the jesuited party, as few of them, that will be intrusted with armes by the new militia committees in these parts, will be found faithfull to your interest, in case of necessity or danger. Theirfore I think it would be an excellent course, to raise about 2000 horse equally out of all the counties on the north side Trent, and to impose the charge of maintaineing and finding them onely upon such as are convicted or suspected notoriously for malignancy. Wheirby your highnes would doe a very just and feasible act, without putting your selfe, or any one else, that be innocent or well affected, to any great charge about them. The clamours of most men, that you punish the innocent promiscuously with the nocent, will be taken away by this meanes. Charles Stewart hath 500 freinds in these adjacent counties, for every one freind to you amongst them, and he doubts not of finding you worke enough, whilst hee lives. I humbly beg pardon for this boldnes, it proceeding really from the wel-wishes of your lordship's very faithfull and humble servant,

ROBERT DUCKENFIELD.

Duckenfield, March 23, 1654.

Notes

Notes relating to the rising at Salisbury, March 11, 1654.

[In the hand of secretary Thurloe.]

Collier. That he saw mr. St. Loe betweene Blandford and Evill who boasted he had 40 men for them. A. D. 1654.

Willis of Salisbury, an inkeeper.

Westfield.

Gabriel Pile.

Clancee of Hamshire.

That one Dorrington, servant to Phillips, sayd, that mr. Wyndham, who should have brought in a good company of horse, was taken prisoner.

Grove and col. Bowles sayd, that marquisse Hartford was to come to them with horse and foote.

Westfield sayth, that Willis the inkeeper told hym, that the m. of Hertford would come into Salisbury with horse and foote, and proclayme Charles the 2d.

He saith, mr. Moumpeffon told him, that the m. of Hertford would assist them, and that they had his hand for it. Col. Bowles sayd the same.

That mr. St. Loe sayd, there was but a small number; that he had some horse and armes for them not farre off; that they must set back to backe, and fight it out. That Saint Loe had, as he remembers, noe pistolls before hym, but he had pistolls in a portmantle, which his men carryed.

Collyer saith, that one lieutenant col. Reeves was with Penruddock.

Cheefe actors. } Mr. Grove; to be sent for.

Mr. Jones.

Mr. Penruddocke.

Captain Hunt.

Saith, that mr. Grove told hym, that many had engaged themselves in this designe, which had failed them, but that they should suffer as well as they.

Mr. Saint Lowe: he sayth, he lives in Dorsetshire; and sayth, that as he was goeing from his house to Knighton, within 7 miles of Salisbury, to hire some lands of his uncle Saint Loe, who dwells there, and as he was goeing, he mett with two or three scouts, one whereof had the sheriff's liverie, and forc't hym to goe along with them as a prisoner, to a body of horse, commanded by sir Joseph Wagstaffe; where he mett with mr. Penruddocke, mr. Grove, and severall other of his freinds, who told them, they were for the kinge; but sayth, he desired them to dismisse hym; but they refuseinge, he sent home his man to acquaint his wife, who returned to hym againe, and saith, soe he marcht with them to Blandford, where he confesseth he sayd unto the people, that he was Penruddocke's captaine, but listd none. And beinge askt, whether he knew not of this buisines before, he saith he had a common report of it, but had noe discourse with any about it. He saith, he was at Penruddocke's upon the friday before the rising, where were Max the apothecary and doctor Whitwell; and beinge askt what discourse they had, he sayth, he heard them talke of what sport they should have on monday, and spake of what they would doe with the judges; and he asking what they meant by this, Penruddock told him, he should see on monday, if the examinate would march into the cuntrie.

He sayth, he went with them as farre as Sherburne, and there left them.

He sayth, his man, when he returned, brought with hym two paire of pistolls, which he bid his man bringe with hym; and whilst he was with them, he was as much for them as could be.

Sayth, that mr. Penruddocke was severall tymes with him, and desired hym to take up armes.

He confesseth, that he knewe of this buisines halfe a year agoe; and that mr. Penruddocke told hym, there should have beene a generall riseinge all over England, upon Saint Valentine's daye.

At the Council at Whitehall.

Friday, March 23, 1654.

SIR Charles Wolseley makes report from the committee of the council, to whom it was referred by an order of yesterday, to consider of the whole busines, touching the trial of the persons in the late insurrection, and to offer names to be inserted in the severall commissions; and upon severall questions put, it was resolved as followeth, viz.

That a letter be forthwith written, in the name of the council, to mr. recorder of London, to come up speedily.

A. D. 1654. That a commission of oyer and terminer in the counties of Wilts, Dorset, Somerset, and Devon, be prepared, and directed to Francis Thorpe, one of the barons of the exchequer, John Glynne, serjeant at law, William Steele, serjeant at law, recorder of the city of London, John Hagget, esq; one of the justices of the counties of Carmarthen, Pembroke, and Cardigan; sir John Evelyn, Robert Wallop, esq; Alexander Popham, esq; John Sadler, esq; one of the masters of the chancery; Thomas Eftcourt, esq; one of the masters of the chancery; William Stephens, doctor of the laws; Richard Norton, esq; George Cooper, Nicholas Greene, Richard Lucy, Thomas Boureman, John Dunch, John Hildesley, William Willoughby, Lislebone Long, John Gorges, John Browne, John Trenchard, John Bingham, William Hufsey, Walter Foy, James Dewy, Robert Pelham, Edward Butler, Arthur Upton, John Drake, James Erifye, Henry Hatfel, Edmund Fowell, John Scarle, Thomas Saunders, Robert Bennet, John Blackmore, Robert Shapcott, Anthony Nicoll, John Moyle, Richard Carter, Thomas Ceely, John Fox, the mayor of Salisbury; Francis Swanton, William Jephson, Nathaniel Whetham, Robert Aldworth, or any five of them.

That some persons shall be sent down, to prepare things for the trial of the said persons in the west.

That letters be written to the sheriffs of the several counties, to give notice to the said several commissioners, in their respective counties, to attend the said service.

That the said commission shall extend to the counties of Wilts, Devon, Dorset, and Somerset.

That mr. attorney general and mr. John Sadler be the persons, who shall be sent down to prepare for the trial of those in the west.

That the clerks of the council do prepare letters to be sent to the several persons, according to the tenor of these votes.

That the said committee are desired to hasten their report as to commissioners for the other counties, and in order thereunto to meet this afternoon.

WILLIAM JESSOP, clerk of the council.

Mr. James Powell to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 420.

I AM ashamed to overcharge you with unnecessary lynes, as I have done already, and doe acknowledge your honour's greates condescention in vouchsafinge me answer in what was expressed in Aldworth's letter. I am many wayes engaged to his highnes formerly, and in particular for his good opinion of me, soe as to put me in a commission for the regiment, in which and in all other thinges within my poore interest shall study and endeavour in all faithfullnes to serve his highnes and the publique weale; but as to the perticular, in which I am soe exceeding unfit in all respects, I doe againe renew my request to your honour, that my commission may be transferred to captain John Pope, who hath bene a captain formerly, and a man of quallitie, and good intrest, and one whome the other officers are well satisfied in, and one I beleve mr. Aldworth would gladly have. I propounded to you mr. Blackwell before, but he beinge the younger person, it is thought fit rather to put in mr. Pope. Wee are extremely obliged to his highnes, that is pleased to gratefie the place accordinge to their desires; for truth is two regiments are to much for this place; and as to the difference with colonel Hagget and some others, it doth not lye in matter of honestie and abilitys, but in a prudentiall way, how it is possible to cement people together, when the fewde is grounded upon differences of another nature, infomuch as people will not bee commanded by them. For my owne part, I doe abhor fraction and foolish devissions; and seeinge what temper the cittie was in, I with others made some propofalls to major Butler to bee proposed to his highnes, but that the rebellion prevented, but did not imagine to receive any commission noe more than to goe to Mexico; and I professe to your honour, to use all meanes I can to beget moderation amongst people, that we may enjoy common peace, and that we may expresse all due conformitie to the government, and to use all the best wayes I can rather to adulce things, then to nourish jarrs. And though I am not fit to serve in this command, yet I shall doe more service in other respects. My prayers are for his highnes, with my poore indeavours and my most humble and thankfull respects to your honour, prayinge your pardon this once, who am

Bristoll, March 24, 1654.

Your honour's most humble servant,

JAMES POWELL.

R. Hope

Capt. Hope to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

AFTER marchinge my one troope, and that troope, which was my late colonel's, to Gloucester, and from thence backe againe to this place, then to Shrewsbury, and from thence to this place, to wayte upon the judges at the assises, in which march, accordinge to orders from commissary general Reynoldes and major Creede, there hath beene seased the persons of severall ould cavalleres, there horses and armes; yesterday haveinge information, that Sherrington Talbot, who, I am credibly informed, was with the cavilleres at Salsberry, was come home to his one house, I sent my leestenant with a partye to apprehend him, but he was not to be found there; yett I hope within this three dayes to have him in safe custody. The face of affares semes (in this malignant place) to promise peace and quietnes at present, there beinge a terror from the Almightye faullen upon them, who are the Lord's, your highnes, and his peoples enemyes. The judges are gone from hence to Bridgenorth, where captain Coulston doth attend them with the troope at present under his commande, who is to see them safe out of Staffordshire, and then to march the latter end of the next weeke to this place, where a greate fayre for severall dayes is kepte. It hath beene my indever, accordinge to your highnes orders, to complayte my troope to a hundred; for that purpos I sent into Darbyshire to ingage what souldyers I could, that had hearetofore beene in servis, and others that weare well affected; but by reason of those discouragements, that they received from persones disaffected to your highnes, and that are enemyes to the pease of the nationes, it was not soe facill a worke as was expected; yett there are manye, that are ackted from a good prinsepall, that have listd themselves, and beyond there abillities have layd out what they could procure from frendes to furnish themselves with horses and armes, there beinge some troopes in the intrim, that have listd none. My humble desire is, that such as have inlistd themselves, and notwithstandinge these discouragements they have mett with, have shewed themselves willinge, may receive that incoragement from your highnes, that may answer their cost and labores, and prove them faulse, who have and dow tell them, that they shall shortly bee sett aside, without anye reward of there good affection and servis. I have sent this bearer, a trooper in my troope, by whom I humbly intreate to receive your highnes pleasure concerneinge them. By letters from som frendes of myne in Derbyshire, I am informed that, collonel Sanders and collonel Barton refuse to paye there taxe; and that manye in Derby and some in the contrye doe the like, takeinge theire exsample from them, which my dutie binds me to informe your highnes of, and to declare this with all humillity and submission unto your highnes; that in my weake apprehention and jugment, till the sorde of justis be by your highnes putt into the handes of such faythfull men, as will acte from a principple of love to the Lord, your highnes, and his people, the burthen will till then bee soe heavy upon your highnes shoulders, that you will not bee able to beare it, sadnes and discouragements will still bee upon the honest and upright harted of the nationes, and the enemyes be incorraged and not discouraged, as is too apparent at this daye. Being pressed in spirit, I have thus farr presumed, but shall proceede noe farther, but in the integritye of my hart subscribe myselfe,

Woster, March 24,
1654.

May it please your highnes,
your highnes servant faythfully
and cherfully to serve you,
ROBERT HOPE.

By the commissioners for the admiralty and navy

March 24, 1654.

WHEREAS by an order of his highnes and council of the 24th of February last, it is declared, that eight ships of war be prepared for the western expedition; and that one thousand landmen, besides the complement of the said ships, be also sent with the same, or as many as can be put on board them; and that over and besides the provisions necessary for the said sea and land men for the said eight ships, three months provisions be made for the fleet already gone, to be sent either in ships to be freighted upon the states account, or to hire the freight of merchants ships, as shall be most for the advantage of the service.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 422.

A. D. 1654.

Ordered, that it be humbly represented to his highness and council, that in pursuance of the said votes the provisions are in a good forwardness to be laid on board the merchants ships taken up for that service. And forasmuch as the said merchant ships will be able to victual and transport (upon contract) a convenient number of the landmen, if it shall be thought meet, at as cheap or cheaper rates than they can be sent upon the states account, so as the owners may have timely advertisement to make accommodations for them accordingly; and for as much also as the eight ships of war are likewise refitting, and will be ready shortly to proceed in the service, it is therefore humbly submitted to the consideration of his highness and council, how the said landmen shall be disposed of, in order to their transportation, and whether any of them shall be sent in the said merchant ships to be provided by the merchants; and likewise what number shall be thought fit to be sent in the states ships of war, that such orders may be given for having the said landmen in a readiness, and making suitable provisions for their voyage, as may best accommodate and conduce to the furtherance and dispatch of this affair.

Ex. Ro. BLACKBORNE, Secr.

Commissary general Reynolds to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 178.

I Received your highness pleasure in a letter from your selfe, wherein I am required to use diligence in finding out the present complotters in these parts. I am almost ashamed, that so little fruit of our paines doth yet appeare; for although we find a cleare satisfaction to our judgement, that all the malignants in these 5 countyes were combined with those of North-Wales, and both with those of the three nations; yet prooffe is not soe evident, as I wish it were. We finde that col. Gerard held correspondency in this countrey, and that this is from the begining one general plott, which seemes to be like a rat running behind stooles, which although seene plainly, yet a full blow cannot be made at him. I doubt not, that something considerable will howsoever be discovered. I have set some at worke in all countyes, where any forces or well-affected persons are; but some of the most knowing malignants refuse to be sworne, others are not yet taken. I hope it will not be unfit to make them speake forcibly, by tying matches, or some kind of paine, whereby they may be made to discover the plott, although we shall not interrogate in that manner, concerning themselves, if it be allowed in respect of others; in which I desire to receive directions speedily. Having an instruction to endeavour to informe my selfe of the state of the countrie, I have been verry inquisitive concerning the present state thereof, and so hold it my duty to represent the danger likely to fall upon the nation by the unsettlement of Wales, where there are two such extremes in good and bad, if any extreme can be so called, that the like is not any where. In taking armes there will be little benefit, if order be not provided for; and those, who are not cavilliers, but go under the name of the godly party (and I hope many are such, although deluded) are altogether unwilling to act by commission, insomuch as it will be difficult forming a militia in North-Wales. I have conferred with severall members of the church of Wrexham; and although their finall answer is not returned, yet I feare there will not be many, who will act under the government amongst them; but I am told, their late journey hither hath caused better satisfaction than formerly. If sir Thomas Middleton were commissioned to raise a regiment, it is the opinion of mr. Gibert and some other solidly honest men, that he would do good service in Denbighshire and those parts of North-Wales. Major general Mitton and mr. Simon Thelwell are likewise proposed as fitt to be represented to his highness for commissions. Be pleased to signifye his highness pleasure by the next, whether the depositions shall be sent up, or kept here; whether security shall be taken for such as no evidence comes against, but are knowne cavilliers, and enemies to the government; whether the settlement of the country against another rising shall not be secured by completing the forces; and what allowance shall bee given upon the dayes of mustering; likewise, if it be not too much presumption, that I may know how long I shall be continued in these parts, because I would dispose of my occasions accordingly. Sir, an answer hereunto is the earnest suite of, sir,

Your obliged and humble servaunt,

Shrewsbury, March [1654]

J. REYNOLDS.

Col.

Col. Aldworth to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

YOUR last of the 20th instant I have received, and did well hope before I had read it, that thereby I should have received a discharge from my military employment, upon these personal and publique grounds and reasons within my last to your honour humbly offered; but seeing his highness is still pleased to continue soe great a trust upon me, I shall (though truly contrary to my judgment I do accept thereof) faithfully endeavour to give the best account I am able in this service. Indeed, sir, the thoughts of such a place never entered into my consideration, soe as to desire or wish for it; and much less upon diversity of principles in others, to lay them aside for advanceinge of my selfe. For my owne judgment, it is well knowne to those acquainted with me, I delight not in widening divisions, have practised a forbearance towards all, and perswaded others to the like. Truly what was in reference to those two gentlemen was downright sincerity, out of tenderness and respect to the publique interest, and common peace and quiett of the city; well perceiving, that the completing one regiment without them would be more abundantly satisfactory to the inhabitants, and the better engagd, and content them; and therefore many of them now understanding, that his highness hath been pleased so to order it, they doe already expresse their approbation hereof, and chearfullness to serve in the same, which mr. Powell, mr. Farmer, and mr. Nethey can testifie with me. As to the coll. now in Wales, his parts and abilities I have and doe honour; and it's well known, what intimacy there hath been between us, and that my father has been the greatest instrument of all his preferments in this cittie; but it hath so happened, that his appearance and owning of some late transactions and parties within this place, hath rendered him to be farr more usefull and better acceptable to another county, than he can be here with approbation. For the other, he came a stranger here, and of small account with the inhabitants generality of the cityzens * * * which did the like. In order to the raising my regiment, I have proposed five several captains, men of quality and faithfullness, unto the commissioners of the militia, which have approved of them, viz. captain Grig, captain Pope, captain Blackwell, captain Vickris, captain Bowen; and shall use all expedition to hasten into the field. Some gentlemen that have been superior officers have willingly accepted of inferior places, as col. Tyson, to be a captain lieutenant, and soe likewise others in other of the companies. It is desired, that a commission may be sent down for major John Harper to command the horse. I have troubled your honour too long with these lines, and therefore, with tender of my humble service and thankfullness, I subscribe,

Bristol, March 24, 1654.

Your ever affectionate servant,

RO. ALDWORTH.

The mayor of Bristol, &c. to secretary Thurloe.

HONORABLE SIR,

TAKING into consideration the great charge in raising of two regiments, and being of opinion, that one regiment only can well be raised in this city, by reason that we know not how to intrust arms in so many persons hands, as will compleat two regiments, or to rate so many persons to find men and arms, that will be chargable in point of estate to make them up; and colonel Aldworth having this day informed us, that your honour had signified unto him his highness's pleasure, that he was content, that only one regiment be raised, and that under his command, to which we very thankfully subscribe; and in order thereunto have this day approved of the chief officers for that one regiment consisting of eight companies; a list whereof shall be forthwith presented you, when we have made choice of the rest of the inferior officers. Only our present humble desire is, that there may be an immediate signification to us of his highness's pleasure of what you have already hinted to colonel Aldworth, in order to the more effectual completing of that regiment, which as we are already taking care about, so shall speed our endeavours for the perfecting thereof. We take leave, and subscribe

Bristol, March 24, 1654.

Your humble servants,

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| John Goring, mayor. | Miles Jackson. |
| Richard Vickries. | Jos. Jackson. |
| John Harper. | Jeremiah Holwey. |
| Ri. Aldworth. | |

Col. Kelsey to secretary Thurloe.

HONORED SIR,

A. D. 1654.
Vol. xxiv.
p. 425.

YOUR'S of the 22d instant I received ; and as to the persons that I secured, most of them are out upon bayle for their quiet and peaceable living, and to appear, when ever they shall bee sent for ; only there is sir John Boyse and colonel Dudley Sands at Upnor Castle, sir Henry and sir Thomas Palmer, captain Loe, colonel Norman, captain Clark, major Child, mr. Coot, mr. Bance, captain Ruffon, captain Osborne, and divers others have given in bond as aforesayd. Som I never committed, being persons of noe interest, and had nothinge against any one of them, but that they weare in the rising in 48.

As for horses, those that I sawe taken are in the hands of the officers, that took them ; and they are as followeth ;

| | | |
|----------------------|-------|---|
| Sir Edward Hales | _____ | 6 |
| Lord Finch | _____ | 3 |
| Mr. a lawyer | _____ | 1 |
| Mr. Huggenson | _____ | 1 |
| Mr. Bance | _____ | 1 |
| Sir Henry Newton | _____ | 2 |

There is one or two more, but I cannot find my noat at present, whose they are. At sir Edward Hals there was some armes for hors and man, I thinke near 20, and som in other places ; but honest men tell us, that those arms were belonging to such horse, as they did find in the militia at Worcester fight. I shall desire to know how to dispose of them. I am glad that God hath scatered these clouds of blood and darkness, that hung over us for the present ; but however I hope you will not be too securely careles, least these flashes be but as lightning before a great tempest. I pray God direct you in all your affaires. I remayne

Canterbury, March 24, 1654.

Your humble servant,

THOMAS KELSEY.

All thes persons that are out upon bayle, and sir Joshua Boyce, and Dudley Sands doe solemnly vow with great asseverations, that they are totally ignorant of these designs, and know nothing of them, but what they have from the books ; but it is hard to believe them.

Davis the taylor was sett at libertie, and gon out of this towne before my lord protector's letter came to his hand.

Capt. J. Griffiths to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 426.

THE storme seems to be over in these parts, wee being at present in quiett, and putting ourselves into a posture to preserve us foe ; but captain Ridge beeing discontent, that hee hath not command himselfe, I have some cause to suspect, that hee may endeavour to asperse our proceedings, or the persons intrusted ; of which nature if any thinge come to your hands, I earnestly beg an accompt thereof. Upon monday next our commissioners all meet for the county, of whose proceedings you shall have an exact accompt ; and then also you may expect a more satisfactory answer from colonel Duckenfield. Colonel Croxton expects a particular order to the present government of the castle for the reduction thereof, &c. Bee pleased to signifye your pleasure concerning sir Richard Malevorer and mr. Walters. There are some of our countrymen yet at liberty, whom I hope the commissioners at their meeting will take care to secure ; whereof they shall have notice from,

Chester, March 24, 1654.

Sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN GRIFFITHS.

To his highness the lord protector of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging.

The humble addrefs of major Jeremiah Tolhurst, commander of Carlisle.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 384.

SHeweth, that the said garrison is very ruinous, especially the citadel and many parts of the castle, and the draw-bridge, by reason there have been no repairs since colonel Fitch commanded it (which is three years and a half) except in some things of greatest necessity ;

necessity; for payment of which the said major hath been necessitated to lay money out of his purse. A. D. 1655.

That by reason of the ruinous condition of the citadel and castle, the soldiers are constrained, most of them, to be quartered in the city, which is not safe in these dangerous times.

That because the soldiers do not lodge in the castle and citadel, it is of necessity, that more men are kept upon the guards than else there would need; by which means the soldiers are at every second night's duty, especially now when there are many prisoners sent in thither from all parts of Cumberland and Westmorland upon this business of the late rising, which hard duty causeth many of the soldiers to fall sick.

That if the said garrison be not repaired this summer, it will be very ruinous, and will cost much the more to repair.

That there is money lying in the hands of one Mr. George Faunt of Leicestershire, which was appointed by the parliament for repair of the said garrison, which comes to be as followeth:

It was ordered by the parliament, the 22d of May, 1649, that it be referred to the committee of Haberdashers-hall, to send for Mr. Faunt, to examine the business touching the 1500 l. by him discovered, and to give order, that soe much of it as belongs to the state be paid to the use of the garrison of Carlisle, to such person, as Sir Arthur Haslerigge shall appoint, and the acquittance of such person to be a sufficient discharge to the treasurers for the same.

Col. Fitch, the then governor of the said garrison, was appointed by Sir Arthur Haslerigge to receive the said 1500 l. who did accordingly demand it; but Mr. Faunt having not ready money, did grant the col. a statute to secure it; and in May, 1651, Mr. Faunt paid Col. Fitch 500 l. in part, and the other 1000 l. rests still in Mr. Faunt's hands, except he be allowed a 5th part, according to the ordinance for discoveries, and then there will rest but 700 l. which 700 l. Mr. Faunt offers to pay upon delivery up of the said statute, which statute is in the custody of Col. Fitch, and is left by him with his wife, who lives in London.

It is therefore humbly desired, that your highness will give order to Col. Fitch, to deliver and assign the said statute to Major Tolhurst, or to whom else your highness shall think fit; and that the said order may discharge Col. Fitch from the money remaining due upon the said statute, it being not received by him; by which means the garrison may be speedily repaired and kept in the better security.

JER. TOLHURST.

March 25, 1655.

A letter of intelligence from Mr. Manning to Secretary Thurloe.

Middleburgh, April 5, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

BOTH yours are come to my hands, wherein you mention only the receipt of two of Vol. xxv. mine bearing date the 22 and 23 of the last month, and nothing at all of that written p. 11. to you the post before, which was of concernment, and thus sent, viz. in a letter to Capt. Manley, and that inclosed in a cover to the postmaster of Dover, with a desire of speedy conveyance, you right, and give yourself much satisfaction in causing inquiry after that letter. Sir, we have here all the newes of England, which puts the honest merchant to a great many feares, that trading may be stopt. I cannot but wonder at the neglect of some of your factors, that knoweing the uncerteinty of times, would not take advise, when given; for I protest there hath not bin a weeke, but I gave Mr. L. Mr. M. and when I saw they would not take notice of it, then I wrote to the gentleman himself, inclosed in Mr. Mal. cover from Cleve, of all the dangers that might ensue; and for all this, 'til I had yours, I never could get a word in answer to any title. To keep you longer in this discourse is but to abuse your patience; therefore take this of newes: Mr. S. is still in his quarter here at Monsieur Croinson's house on the Langen Delph, and noe resolution taken for removall 'til farther intelligence. We are not many here. Now, Sir, your being in action in England makes me not trouble you with any other particulars for the present, but only to assure you of my affection and fidelity, if you thinke fit to use me; and, Sir, if you would have me keepe with the person of Mr. S. and followe his course of trading, you must then by the next send me a cipher or two, and two or three addresses for letters, that may not be in the least suspiciousable. If you thinke I may be more usefull to come over, then I pray faile not by the next to send me a pass, but let it be a

VOL. III.

4 H

little

A. D. 1655. little antidated; as also your letters, let them alwaies be 5 dayes punctually antidated, and never, 'til I have your cipher, write any thing but what may be as a common freindship to me; only still send me a diurnall and 3 or 4 words of newes. Sir, I shall expect to heare from you punctually the next post, and as you intend to have me doe; if to stay here with — &c. then send me a cipher and severall addressees, as also a letter of credit or bill of exchange for some considerable sume from mr. Lucas Lucey, the merchant in Fanchurch-street, chargeable on his correspondent here; but he must not have the least hint from whome the money comes, being noe freind; only let the persone you send with it say, that by mr. Boovie's direction at Middlebergh to a freind, he was directed to him to make returne of some money to a persone there. Sir, I must be here at greate expence, to keepe in with the grandees, otherwise I shall know little worth your knowlege; therefore I leave it to your consideration. If you would have me come over, I pray you send me the pais, a diurnall, and a bill of exchange for only 40 or 50 l. for I must not come by the pacquet, but by a ship expresse, to avoide giving suspition here. Your letters, let them be thus addressed, viz. one, as the last was, *A monsieur monsieur Jaques Bouie, merchant a Middleburg*; the duplicate thus, in Englishe; *For mr. John Botler, merchant in Dunkirque, to be sent to mr. John Clutterbook, living at madame Wilwaie's house, in the Graft Hoff at Bruges, and by him to be speedily conveyed to mr. Henry Manwaring*. And by this way of Dunkirque, I shall have your letter two dayes sooner then the ordinary post Sir, I am feigne to send my man purposely to Dunkirque with this letter, and with a charge to put it into the mail himself; for 'till you send me addressees and ciphers, I dare not write freely to you; and least that your servants should mistake any of my directions, I have sent you the two inclosed covers. Sir, if you please to let me heare from you punctually the next post, according as I have writ, I can and will doe most effectuell and considerable services, and assure yourself, that I am, sir,

Your most humble servant,

HEN. MANWARING.

There is in mr. Botler's cover another, which superscription I would have indorsed in your letter to me, and then let it be inclosed in another cover, only directed as that is to mr. Botler, which is a better way then the other I mention. I pray be very carefull what you write, and let me not faile to heare from you.

Fairfax in the North, Willoughby of Parham in Lincolnshire, sir Hugh Pollard in the West, with both the Courtney's are the men relyed on; and in Wales, Carbery and Cherbery in Shropshire. Sir Vincent Corbett, sir Henry Thin and Armerer, my lord Strafford, and sir Ch. Howard, with Arundell family, are no freinds. Besides the persons I gave you an accompt of from hence, what you have from me, on the faith of a Christian, I assure you, is truth.

Cardinal Mazarin to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

April 5, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

YOUR letter of the 25th of March was sent to me by the earl of Brienne on wednesday last, soon enough for to return an answer, as you will have seen I did by an addition, which I then wrote unto you; so that I have only to refer my self unto it, having nothing new to add as to your treaty.

We do daily expect to see some effect of so many propositions concerning the levies; and we ought at last, once for all, to be at some certainty, what we may expect. I much wonder, they do not speak unto you of the ship seized upon at Toulon; for assuredly there is expresse order not to release it. And if the claimers will have it, they must resolve to indemnify us in some fort for those, which are seized on in England, as was done for the other, called the Lady Frigat.

Bordeaux to his son, the French ambassador in England.

Paris, April 5, 1655. [N. S.]

MY SON,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 180.

I HAVE received your letter, but had not an opportunity to entertain his eminence with the contents thereof, in defence of the fault, which you confess to have made. Besides, it is in vain to go about to excuse that which is past. I expect to hear, that you have

have concluded the treaty, as the earle of Brienne doth believe you ought to do; and which you have order to finish, or to receive advice of your departure, which you are to delay, although it doth seem, that they have given you leave here to come away, if you fail to conclude, in regard that the earl of Brienne told me, that the regret of a rupture would suddenly seize on him, who doth declare his intentions for a rupture. And monsieur Servien himself, when I first met him yesterday, told me, that peace is very desirable, and doth not condemn your overture, to insert in the article the word *de presentement*, whereof he made use himself in the treaty of the emperor, since it is to avoid by that word a kind of declaration, which would seem to be of a league offensive and defensive, which he doth not judge reasonable to explain, since it is not controverted. He did assure me, that he would maintain that thesis, if his eminence should speak to him of it. He doth very much consider the advantages, which are to had for both parties in the peace; and doth think it strange, that it should not be accepted of, for such considerations of so little consequence. Monsieur de Brienne doth very much desire, that you should finish with good success, and cannot relish the impatiencies, and doth very much blame the complaints made of your conduct; the which however will not be judged good or bad, but by the events. And, according to the ordinary maxims of the court, he told me, that his eminence doth believe, that you are always persuaded by your commissioners of the justice of the reasons of the protector, for all things which are proposed in his behalf, or that he doth reject your propositions; and that on the contrary, to conceive a good opinion, and to persuade you to believe the same justice and reasons of your demands or denial, that you do act with quietness, without maintaining with force and resolution that, which is necessary not to be departed from, or yielded unto. Monsieur de Brienne told me, that you committed a gross fault in one of your letters to his eminence, in that you did give to understand all the reasons of the protector, and, as proceeding from the commissioners, and at the same time, you gave to understand the things to be at that pass, as they will come to in time; and that on the contrary you ought to write the reasons as coming from yourself; and supposing, that the protector or the commissioners might say such things, and cause always when that you shall know how the affairs, and in what point they will end, that of your selfe you can bring them to that end, for to infuse into him always a belief, that the difficulties or the overtures of the accommodation are of your labours and invention. Behold here a judicious tablature, which you are to practise hereafter, to the end that you be not taken in that net, which monsieur de Brienne hath observed, who doth give matter to his eminence to make the less account of your conduct.

The examination of Thomas Nevett, in the parish of Priests in the county of Salop, taken before me Humfrey Mackworth, esq; this 26th of March, 1655, upon oath, at Shrewsbury.

THAT hearing, by the speech of the country, that the late king of Scots was to come, he sold a colt worth about twenty shillings, that to be paid when he came to be king in England. Being asked, who they were who told him? he saith, William Bircherly, being the man, to whom he sold the colt, living in the parish of Whitchurch. Being asked, whether he had made an offer to sell a score of sheep to William Blanthorn, to be paid for them when king Charles came in, viz. forty shillings in hand, and ten pounds at that time? he denieth that he made any such proffer.

H. MACKWORTH.

THOMAS NEVETT
his [] mark.

The envoy of the king of Poland to secretary Thurloe.

Excellentissime ac generosissime domine, domine ac amice colendissime,

DECIMUS septimus agitur dies, quod excellent. vestrae adventum meum significaverim, ac mandatu ipsius copiam literarum per secretarium meum tradiderim, quo etiam tempore de certa audientiae die certior redditus, aliae deinde morae injectae fuere, adeo quod nequicquam jam, quando illa admitti debeat, haurire possim. Cum vero finis vel subjectum legationis meae mora aliqua longiori evanescere, & inutilis reddi possit, hisce iterum atque iterum excellent. vestram oratam velim, ut hoc negotium, quo quantocius ad audientiam admitti possim, sibi commendatum habere velit: quibus te sibi devotissimum reddet, cui interim optimam valetudinem ac rerum successus ex animo precor, maneboque,

Excellent. vestrae ad quaevis officia paratissimus servitor,

Londini, Martis 26, 1655.

N. DE BYE,

Internuncius serenissimi Poloniae Sueciaeque regis extraordinarius.

Mr.

Mr. recorder Steele to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxiv.
p. 439.

HAVING not since my coming from you on saturday night, nor in the letter from the councell, which I found at my coming home the same night, received certaine direction, whether I should returne immediately out of Essex; and if I mistooke not, some particular directions were spoken of, to signifye the pleasure of his highnes therin; and withall it may perhaps bee convenient, for the satisfaction of my associats, who yet expect my company, to th' end of the circuite, that something bee signified to mee touching this busines at Chelmsford before Thursday next; for which purpose I thought good to give you this trouble, that if you thinke fitt such signification may bee given, with the tyme, that is intended for our departure hence, and for sitting upon the comission in the countrey. This use however I shall make herof, that if I heare not from you, nor from his highnes, nor the councell, before the ending of the assizes at Chelmsford, I shall interpret it a command to returne from thence, though the more explicite way will best satisfy all the reasons aforementioned. Sir, I pray pardon this trouble from

Marche 26, 1655.

Your most humble servant,

WILLIAM STEELE.

Capt. J. Griffiths to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxxvi.
p. 675.

I Formerly gave you account of the takeinge of sir Richard Maleverer, and securing him a prisoner. I must now give you an account of his escape. Yesterday I was enjoined to attend the commissioners for the city of Northwich, where appeared of the commissioners for the militia, col. Henry Brooke, col. Thomas Croxton, mr. Marbury, mr. Hyde, mr. Dutton, col. Henry Bradshaw, lieutenant col. John Brooke, and major Peter Brooke. All of whom acted very freely, except major Peter Brooke, who very much obstructed it, as farre as in him laye, by declareinge against raiseinge any horse or foote at all; and affirminge his thoughts, that his highnesse had some other designe therein then the late insurrections, with other aggravations; but they took not with the rest, who setled a regiment of foote under command of colonel Croxton, but respited the horse till further direction. And about a quarter of an hour before my return to Chester, sir Richard under colour of his devotion, to which he had accustomed himselfe often every day, and by the helpe of a woman, who is gone, and not yet heard of, and by the helpe of her apparell, as is thought, notwithstandinge a strict guard at the doore of his chamber, and a great light therein, escaped forthe at a windowe downe into the streete (in which action he must needs greatly hazard his life) and after him went mr. Walter; which was presently discovered by their absence, and the breach in the window; and upon my coming home, mytelfe and others interessed have been as diligent as possible, by makeinge out parties, searches, sendinge out hu-on cryes and posts to all partes, and mytelfe been forth all night and all day; but at present cannot effect our desires of his recaption, nor follace ourselves with the hopes thereof; nevertheless we shall leave no means unattempted. Truly, sir, their was as much care and dilligence in secureinge them, as to our apprehensions might be conceived necessary. But the countrey is much satisfyed (by this his desperate attempt) of the desperatenesse of the guilt hee and others had contracted against the peace of a well setled comonwealth; who what for their own private respects, and the unhandsome discourse of such persons as major Peter Brooke, wee find apt enough to be incredulous of any necessity to their charge. This all your present trouble, save to assure you. I am, sir,

Chester, March 27, 1655. Your very affectionate although weary and perplexed servant,

JO. GRIFFITH.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg, to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 487.

THE goodness of God to his highnes and the commonwealth in foe eminently and seasonably appearinge against the implacable enemies of both to their shame and utter overthrowe, as it can never be sufficiently acknowledged and praised, foe the nations, that looke

looke on and have undoubtedly contributed towards the ruine intended you in this and in the former plotts, must at least now confesse the hand of heaven against that family they seeke to uphold. Questionless the advantages are great and many, which may be made of this busines; and I doubt not but God will direct his highnes and his counsell to improve to the utmost in all relations. The same day your letter came to hand, I dispatcht the good newes to all parts, to prevent misinformations; the common practise of the enemy, when your relation lingers. I see it's noe time to trouble you with private busines; therefore I shall forbear sendinge of my answer to that scandalous remonstrance of mr. Townlie and his partie, till I heare of your better leasure, being confident, that in the meane tyme nothing will be done to my prejudice. It remanes only that I returne you my thankfull acknowledgement of your civilities to my wife, and to desire answere as soon as well you can to my former letters touchinge the narratives and commission to examine witnesses, by which you will further oblige,

Sir, your verry humble servant,

Hamb. March 27, 1655.

RICHARD BRADSHAW.

SIR,

My wife writes me, you assured her of your writinge to me everie post but one. I assure you, your letters have not come to my hands, but as I have given notice to you, therefore be pleased to require an account of it from the post-master there; for I have cause to doubt the boldness of some to intercept letters, though it make little for them.

As I am sealing, monsieur Peterfon desires you to inclose and recommend this paper to your perusal. The original goes to some freind there per this post. It seemes an unseasonable demand, for this citty to give up their owne merchants goods, taken and retaken in the Elve; but the states general will surely hearken to reason, if his highness interpose.

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

THIS signall and eminent appearance of the Lord, in so strangely scattering our Vol. xxxvi. enemies in England, is no other then his doings alone, and it ought to be marvellous p. 701. in our eyes. The Lord affect our harte with a due sence thereof, and teach us to walke humbly and closely before him, whose presence alone must keepe and preserve our peace, as well as he hath againe given it unto us. I desire wee may walke with a constant awe of his great name, least he be provoked to withdraw. I should be glad to heare the people of the Lord, who have so signall a mercy in this deliverance, may walk more in love one to another. Upon the receipt of your's, finding so many considerable persons were engaged in this busines, I did send to all the ports to secure all suspicious persons that come out of England. I am sending into all the precincts to give them notice of this great mercy, and for setting some time apart for praise, as well as prayer. The very poore Tories were much lifted up in the hopes of the enemies successe in England. There were some of late runne into rebellion, but through mercy not considerable. Wee have long secured one col. Trefwell, on supposall, that he was in the late plott. I wish we might heare, whether yow have any thing against him.

As to the courts of justice, I shall say little more then what formerly I have, only this, that I conceive, that a chancery and upper bench, which might have cognisance of causes formerly in the common-pleas, would be sufficient. I thinke I could offer fixe or more fitt judges for the courts of justice. I understand, that there is endeavours to settle the busines of tythes in *statu quo*, which, if so, what betwixt the Scotch clergie and other ignorant and unable ministers, will quickly returne this nation into its former condition of ignorance; whereas now wee have an opportunitie to incourage any honest godly ministers, which otherwise will be destroyed. Your care therefore heerin I entreate, who am

March 28, 1655.

Your humble servant,

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

General Disbrowe to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

YOUR last I received on my way to Taunton, where now I am, and have got Vol. xxiv. some understanding of the prisoners there. Enclosed is (as I thinke) a perfect list of p. 456. them, and of the others at Exeter, of which the greatest part doe sufficiently owne themselves.

VOL. III.

4 I

selves

A. D. 1655. selves to be engaged in the rising; and for the others that doe not, we have competent evidence. I am very glad, that the comission for their tryall is in soe good forwardnesse, and shall, as you desire, take what care I can with the sheriffe of Devon, that we may be provided of honest juryes against the time; hoping you will receive no disappointment therein. Underwritten are the names of 5 or 6 of those at Exeter, whom it may be fitt to begin with, as having been some of the leading persons in the rebellion; and I doe not thinke they are any of them soe esteemed in Devonshire, as that there need be any great scruple, whom to adventure on first for a president at their tryall. The prisoners that are at this place we are sending to Ilchester gaole, upon committments from the justices of the peace, where mr. Hunt the sheriff desires, if with convenience to the judges and rest of the commissioners, they may receive their tryall; and so the trouble and charge of removeing them againe be avoyded. I have very gladly read in your letter his highnesse pleasure for my returne to wayt on him at Whitehall; yet I judge it meet to expect your answer to my last letter, and as I shall finde his highnesse minde explained therein, shall accordingly hasten towards you; in the meane tyme, remaineing

Caunton, March 28, 1655.

Your very affectionate friend to serve you,

JOHN DISBROWE.

SIR,

I should have written to his highness by every post, but I feared it would have been troublefome, except I had had somewhat of concernment. I pray lett his highnesse knowe soe much.

John Penrudocke, of Crumpton in Wilts, esq; Edward Penrudocke, of the same, gent. Hugh Grove, of Chysenbury, in Wilts, gent. Robert Duke, of Stuckton, in Southampton, gent. Francis Jones, of Beddington, in Surry, gent. John Jones, of Newton Toney, in Wilts, gent.

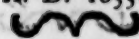
I have spoke also with the sheriffe of this county about the juryes, and he hath promised to be very carefull therein.

A list of the prisoners in the counties of Devon and Somerset, committed upon the late insurrection.

EXON, March 22, 1654.

Vol. xxiv.
P. 379.

JOHN Penraddock, of Compton Chamberlain, in Wilts, esq;
Edward Penraddock, of the same, gent.
Hugh Grove, of Chipenbury in Wilts, gent.
Robert Duke, of Stuckton in Southampton, gent. in Fording-Bridge parish.
Richard Reeves, of Kimpton in Southampton, gent.
Francis Jones, of Beddington in Surry, gent.
John Jones, of Newton Toney in Wilts, gent.
George Duke, of Stuckton in Southampton, gent.
Francis Bennet, of Killington in Somersetshire, gent.
Richard Wroughton, of Wilcott in Wilts, gent.
Thomas Helliard, of Uxton in Southampton, gent.
William Jenkins, of Fording-Bridge in Southampton, gent.
Thomas Westcomb, of Sarum, vintner.
Henry Collier, of Stepell Langford in Wilts, gent.
Thomas Fitz-James, of Henly in Dorsetshire, gent.
William Stroud, of Wincanton, in Somersetshire, gent.
Joseph Collier, of Steeple Langford in Wilts, gent.
Robert Harris, of Blandford in Somersetshire, cordwainer.
James Huish, of Kim-ridge in Dorsetshire, gent.
Edward Moreing, of Andover in Hampshire, weaver.
Edward Davy, of London, gent.
Joseph Moreing, of Andover in Hampshire, yeoman.
William Wake, of Blandford-Forum in Dorsetshire, clothier.
Thomas Powlton, of Pewsey in Wilts, innholder.
Edward Willis, of Sarum, innholder.
Christopher Haviland, of Lankey in Dorsetshire, ytoman.
Thomas Kninsley, of Salisbury, helliar.
Richard Attwood, of Uphaven, in Wilts, butcher.
Henry Hardinge, of Pewsey in Wilts, gent.
Abraham Wilson, of Sarum, cutler.
George Gifford, of Compton Chamberlain in Wilts, gardner.



Robert Browne, of Andover in Hampshire, cordwainer.
 John Biby, of Compton Chamberlain in Wilts, gent.
 Simon Barnard, of Blandford in Dorsetshire, taylor.
 John Cooke, of Potterne in Wilts, gent.
 Richard Humphrey, of Wyford in Wilts, warrener.
 Edward Painter, of Andover in Hampshire, currier.
 Stephen Elkin, of Compton Chamberlain, servant to Mr. Edward Penruddocke.
 John Jennings, of Compton Chamberlain, servant to Col. Penruddocke.
 Robert Nicholas, of Enford in Wilts, husbandman.
 John Shepherd, of Compton Chamberlain in Wilts, servant to John Penruddocke, esq;
 Richard Hyard, of Ampote in Hampshire, husbandman.
 John Bond, of Harbury in Warwickshire, gent.
 George Hayward, of Salisbury in Wilts, woollen-draper.
 Isaac Stichley, of Sturminster in Dorsetshire, tanner.
 John Hobbes, of Idmiston in Wilts, yeoman.
 Robert Barefoot, of Sarum in Wilts, soap-boiler.
 William Lewington, of Linchinhold in Hampshire, husbandman.
 Nicholas Muffel, of Steple-Langford in Wilts, yeoman.
 Joseph Rivers, colonel, of Rivers-Hill in Hampshire.
 John Hordisnell, of Gray's-Inn, London.
 Carey Reynel, of Pinsted in Hampshire, gent.
 William Hallet, of Netherby in Dorset, gardner.
 Edmund Clicke, of Bagshot in Berkshire, gent.
 Philip Woodward, of Fisherton near Salisbury, clotheworker.
 Thomas Fray, of Tisbury in Wilts, helliar.
 John Ruffel, of Blandford in Dorsetshire, weaver.
 Henry Sampson, of Sherborn in Dorsetshire, husbandman.
 John Williams, of Fyfield in Hampshire, carter.
 Moses Kenfield, of Enfield in Wilts, husbandman.
 Robert Skardey, of Endford in Wilts, taylor.
 John Bankes, of Endford in Wilts, cordwainer.
 Edward Targett, of Tesbury in Wilts, husbandman.
 Leonard Catkitt, of Cholterton in Wilts, waggoner.
 Nathaniel Galpin, of Blandford in Dorsetshire, Weaver.
 Richard Broadgate, of Blandford in Dorsetshire, tapster.
 Edmund Wymouth, of Sherborn in Dorsetshire, miller.
 James Combe, of Blandford in Dorsetshire, cooper.
 Thomas Mortimer, of Sandford, husbandman.
 Thomas Cawley, of Shalborne in Wilts, husbandman.
 Richard Browne, of Enford in Wilts, servant to major Clarke.
 Robert Mason, of Newton Toney in Wilts, capt. Jones's servant.
 Robert Sugar, of Sherborn in Dorsetshire, feltmaker.
 Richard Batt, of Sarum in Wilts, smith.
 Harmistowy, a trumpeter, a Dutchman.
 Ambrose Cole, of Poole in Dorsetshire, warrener.
 John Chamberlain, of Sherborn in Dorsetshire, husbandman.
 Thomas Uppington, of Chamberick in Wilts, husbandman.
 William Peirce, of Salisbury in Wilts, carpenter.
 Thomas Coker, of Tiverton, thatcher.
 William Deyman, of Tiverton, gent.
 John Allyn, of Holliborne in Hampshire, yeoman.
 Thomas Lambert, of Wilsweld in Hampshire, bricklayer.
 Jethro Morelhey, of Chaten in Wilts, husbandman.
 Henry Bynsteed, of Bynsteed in Hampshire, taylor.
 Timothy Maton, of Endford in Wilts, carter.
 Cornelius Igney, of Harnham in Wilts, carpenter.
 Richard Read, of Whitchurch in Devonshire, husbandman.
 William King, of Fisherton in Wilts, husbandman.
 William Whatley, of Fisherton in Wilts, husbandman.
 Richard Miles, of Andover in Hampshire, clotheworker.
 Edward Cox, of Sturton in Somersetshire, gent.
 William Bungy, of St. James's in Wilts, taylor.
 Richard Broadgate, of Blandford in Dorsetshire, husbandman.
 Richard Kinfield, of Enford in Wilts, husbandman.
 Thomas Ranger, of Endford in Wilts, husbandman.
 Andrew Blackman, of Binsteed in Hampshire, husbandman.
 Thomas Gray, of Salisbury, hostler.

William

A. D. 1655.



William Martin, of Evill in Somersetshire, taylor.
 Hugh Edwards, of Bath, serving-man.
 James Marchbankes, of Morpeth in Northumberland, serving-man.
 Richard Andrewes, of Sherborn, baker.
 John Pinson, of Sherborn, chapman.
 Francis Toope, of East-Knoyle, in Wilts, gent.
 John Purchase, of Salisbury, barber.
 Richard Askott, of Samford Courtney in com. Devon. gent.
 John Homburg, of Tre-mary, in com. Devon. gent.
 William Hurd, of Maubry, in com. Devon. gent.
 John Haynes, trumpeter.
 Christopher Wood, of Colingborn.

T A U N T O N.

Henry Clarke, of Endford in com. Wilts, esq;
 Thomas Hunt, of the same, capt.
 Edward Poulton, of Monckton in com. Wilts, capt.
 Thomas Pickhaver, of Maddington in com. Wilts, gent.
 Robert Foote, of Westminster, gent.
 William Ganeham, of Andover, gent.
 Henry Hewitt, of Salisbury, yeoman.
 John Frampton, of Blandford.
 John Elkins, of the same.
 Augustin Greenwood, of Salisbury, taylor.
 John Chapman, of the same.
 John Fulford, servant to major Clarke.
 Richard Goleston, of Amport in Southamptonshire, gent.
 Oxenbridge Fowell, of Abbots Anne in Southamptonshire, gent.
 Nicholas Saxton, of Alton, gent.
 Christopher Prince, }
 Thomas Hutchins, } Servants to the said mr. Saxton.
 Jasper Kelway, of Salisbury, turner.
 George Oliver, of Blandford, felt-maker.
 Hugh Browne, of Fisherton in com. Wilts, labourer.
 John Lymington, of Salisbury, spurrier.
 Charles Thomas, of Blandford, currier.
 Richard Thornburgh, of Compton in Wiltshire, gent.
 Col. Philips, of Mountague in Somersetshire.
 Samuel Keymore.
 William Atkins.

I L C H E S T E R.

John Palmer, of Kilmelton, husbandman.
 Henry Gyfford, of Bruton in Somersetshire, cordwainer.

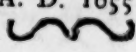
Major general Disbrowe to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

Vol. xxix.
 P. 244.

A Ccordinge to your commands, inclosed is a list of the prisoners in the severall countyes and the places, where for the present they are secured. I doe understand, that many of them doe pretend to innocency, as the lord Paulett and one mr. Tent of Somersetshire, and the marques of Harford in Wilts. The informations I have had since my comeinge into these parts concerning them is nothinge of new or late actinge, though I am very confident they generally knew of the late rebellion. Their be many in every county as bade or worfe in their affections to the cavilere party, that are not secured, for they are of a meaner quality, and I did conceive it not convenient to sease more then I know what to doe withall; for truly I am humbly of opinion, that haveinge two many of them together, might give them an advantage of knowinge one another's minds more then now they can, beinge I am forced to keepe them for the most part in inns, not haveinge any other places, where is any accommodation for them. But if it be judged needfull, I can cause as many as your highness please to be taken up more; but I humbly conceive, these already secured will be sufficient to proceed with, and to make a patterne for all the rest.

Indeed,

Indeed, my lord, I have not found it so easy a worke as I thought it would have bine, to A. D. 1655.
fettel the militia in these parts to my satisfaction. I hope I shall now gitt through it. 
I have sent to major Sanders to attend your highnesse for Devon, captain Gorges for Somersett, captain Dury for Dorset, major Ludlow for Wilts, and I intend captain Crofts for Gloster: col. Bennett is already at London, who will be for Cornwall. I shall not trouble your highnesse further now, only to subscribe my selfe,

Your highnesse's faythfull

and humble servant,

JOHN DISBROWE.

Major general Boteler to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

I MOST humbly thanke you for mentioning my suite to his highnesse; and whiles he Vol. xxiv.
thinkes my stay in these parts needfull, I thinke so too, and shall very cheerfully p. 458.
comply with his commands. I shall away to Salisbury, and advise with your sherriff about the returning of their juries. I am exceeding gladd to see justice at the heels of those, whose feete were lately so swift to shedd the blood of saints. *Because sentence against an evill worke is not speedily executed; therefore is* (and I am sure hath been in our late dayes) *the parts of such men fully sett in them to doe evill.* Every thing is lovely in it's season; the same justice upon these offenders would lose much of its glory, if its execution should be deferred. Give me leave to minde you something in reference to one mr. Saint Loe, that I sent up by captain Horfington; besides that examination he brought with him here is one of the parishe of Shaftsbury, that informes he sent in two men and horses to the rebels, as well as accompanied them in his owne person. Also I have this night sent a party to apprehend sir Seamour Pyle, who by the confession of a prizoner I have here was at their first rendezvouze with sir Harry Moore, mr. Mason, and Charles Lucas, and others. I have had an high suspition of him this 5 or 6 six dayes; and have at length found my gentleman really guilty, as you may see by this copy of the information I have sent up; but he was so cunning to be at church both noones on the sunday, and went not out till about the eveninge, and met mr. Mason and others at ten in the night, and came back from that first rendezvous, reserving his further appearance till success should invite it, as many others did, who, I trust, in tyme will be discovered, as well as he. I intend to send him, or take him with me to Salisbury; and there committ him to his partners, that he may share in their punishment, as well as in the sin. I beseech you, sir, present my most humble duty to his highnesse, and let me assure you, that I am,

Marleborough, March 28,
1655. at 10 at night.

Sir, your most faithful servant,

WILLIAM BOTELER.

The information of William Palmer of Hungerford in the county of Berks, cordwainer, taken before major Boteler, March 28, 1655.

WHO faith, that upon sunday was fortnight being the 12th day of this instant, he Vol. xxiv.
going from Hungerford aforesaid with mr. Mason and his man, who were then go- p. 462.
ing to the rendezvouz at Old Sarum, did at a place called Bottle's Hill 4 or 5 miles from Hungerford, meet there about ten or twelve other persons about ten a clock the same night, among whom was sir Seamour Pyle, mr. Mason, and mr. Deane, and one Thomas Curr, all whom this informant well knew and saw there, which was a place appointed for their meeting before they should go to subscribe; and this informant faith, that he refused to go any further himself, and from thence he returned home again to Hungerford, but left sir Seamour Pyle and the aforementioned persons together; and faith, that one Rose, servant to sir Humphry Moore, told him that all these persons were intended to go together to the aforesaid rendezvouz, and that captain Pyle was also among them, but this informant knoweth him not.

WILLIAM [] PALMER
his mark.

Ol. Williams to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

I Was informed where an agent from the pope lay, and I went into his lodging, and Vol. xxiv.
went as a servant to a ladie, sent to him for a pardon, but he himselfe was not at home, p. 459.
VOL. III. but

A. D. 1655. but his mother asked the party that brought me in, whether I weare a catholicque : thay answered, that I was. The agent's mother called me to her, and tould how God had bin pleased to make her sonn an instrument to convert many into that religion out of the citty of London, since his coming over, and that now he is gon to Linckollneshire, to dispose of some commissions, which he and two more brought from king Charles out of France, and when her son came home, I should have a pardon for my lady and myselfe. She gave me these two things, and shewed me many picktures, which he brought with him from Rome. The same party brought one major Cave, who is heare an agent for Charles Stuart ; and he would ingage me to furnish him with many thousands of armes, and I should have part mony, and the rest from sufficient men in London. He tould me how they would convey them into a safe hand in Kent, and that within a few dayes they would betray the citty and Tower ; but I shall know all their secretts, as he tells me. I shall waite at the doore to know your highnes plesure and direction in this things.

March 28, 1655.

Your highnesse's faithful servant,

OLIVER WILLIAMS.

The deposition of Edward Jones of Dwifrood, taken upon oath before me Humphry Mackworth, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the said county of Shrewsbury, March 28, 1655.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 460.

BEING demanded what he knew concerning the late raising of men in this county and Montgomeryshire, he saith, that there was a drawing men together by mr. Ralph Kynaston, now a prisoner in Shrewsbury ; and that he this deponent was spoken unto by the said Ralph Kynaston, who sent for him to an alehouse on wednesday the 7th instant, and desired him to go along with him. He this deponent asked him whither he would have him go, he replied to a rendezvous in one of the Clanomunty-fields on thursday in the evening following, where he said sir Arthur Blany would meet, and that thence they were to go to sir Thomas Harris his park, and thence to Shrewsbury. He further saith, that he heard Ralph Kynaston say, that sir Thomas Harris was to be commander in chief ; and that he the said Ralph Kynaston promised to come within two days after, but could not go with them in regard of his wife's illness, but would bring him and the rest of the men who went along with him to sir Thomas Harris's. Being asked who were engaged under the said Ralph Kynaston, he saith, that he saw going to the rendezvous on thursday in the evening David Owen, Edward Owen who had a sword, Roger Geno with a rapier, John Jones with a sword, and that captain John Tongue met them within a quarter of a mile of the place of rendezvous as they were upon the way, and told them, that the men, who were engaged under Kynaston, should turn about and go to sir Thomas Harris's party, saying, come to our party, and there you will be safe, otherwise they would be lost ; and he heard Tongue give no reason for it, but hath since heard that new bridge was secured by a party from Montgomery. Every one of them went to their several habitations except Tongue, who went towards Boreaston, but whither he afterwards went this deponent knoweth not. Being asked what money was given by Ralph Kynaston to himself or any of the rest who were to go with him ; he saith, that he saw him give one shilling to Philip Shelooock, but he remembers not of any more given to the rest. Being demanded what commission Ralph Kynaston had to raise men, he saith, that he heard he was to have a captain's place under sir Thomas Harris, but knows not the same certainly.

H. MACKWORTH.

EDWARD JONES.

Major general Berry to secretary Thurloe.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 463.

SIR,

I Writt to my lord formerly to know what he would order concerning the armes that I tooke in Nottinhamshire ; and desired that he would please to give them to the five troopes that were in that service, viz. two troopes of major generals, two troopes of col. Hacker's, and my owne. I beseech you know his answers, and let me heare. The pistolls and saddles I sent to Leicester to col. Hacker ; some armour and two buffe coates I have here. I beleeve there wil be very little advantage to the publike in sending them to any magazine ; and it would much engage the affections of the souldiers, if my lord would bestow them among them. I shall not presse it further, but begge a returne of his answer to, sir,

Lincolne, March 28, 1655.

Your reall friend and servant,

JA. BERRY.

Mr.

W. Armyne, &c. to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

IN obedience to your commands in your letter of the 24th of March, which we received A. D. 1655. the 26th instant, the justices of the peace in these parts of Kesteven in the county of Lincoln, have issued out our warrants to the several chief constables of our division for a strict watch and ward to be duly and carefully kept, according to your highness's letter; and also have taken care for the sending your highness's letter to Lincoln, and dispatched copyes thereof attested under our hands to Stamford, Boston, and Grantham. Our prayers to the Almighty are and shall be for his blessings ever to goe along with you, your councell, and armyes; and our utmost endeavours and dilligence shall never be wanting in our several places to preserve the peace of this country and nation, and in all things to approve ourselves.

May it please your highness,

Corby, March 28, 1655.

your most humble and faithful servants,

WILLIAM ARMYNE.
WILLIAM BROWNELOWE.
WILLIAM DONMAN.
JEREMY COLE.

The Danish agent to secretary Thurloe.

Amplissime domine,

Quandoquidem commoda mihi sese offert occasio Roterodamum transmittendi navi quadam presidiaria, quæ in procinctu est, quam primum faverit ventus, Gravesenda solvere, rumorque percrebuit mandato serenissimæ suæ celsitudinis prohibitum esse, ne qua navis ex ullo hujus reipublicæ portu exeat absque speciali in hunc finem obtentâ licentiâ; quod si ita sese habeat, non modo iter meum, sed et serenissimi regis domini mei clementissimi aliis in locis negotia plurimum remoraturum esset. Quocirca dominationem vestram peramanter rogatam volo, uti pro solitâ suâ in me humilitate a celsitudine suâ ejusmodi licentiam mihi impetrare haud gravetur, qua memorata navis una cum aliâ Gedanensi a S^{to} Georgio denominata, cui residuum famulitii sarcinarumque mearum ad fretum Oresundicum transvehendum impositum est, destinatum, sibi iter quamprimum ingredi permittatur, quâ in re is mihi exhibebitur a dominatione vestrâ favor, quo præter ea, quibus jam ante ipsi plurimum obligatus eram officia, etiamnum alterius sibi devinciet. Vale. Dabatur Londini 28 Martii 1655.

Martii 28, 1655.

Dominationi vestræ

ad quævis officia paratissimus,

HENR. WILLIAMSEN ROSENVINGE.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to cardinal Mazarin.

MY LORD,

YOUR eminence will be informed by my letter to the earl of Brienne, of the new obstacle, which hath been formed within these three days, against the conclusion of the treaty. I did of late threaten to be gone, and took such courses, as might persuade them to believe, that I was in earnest, and that I would be gone, if I had not satisfaction given me. Now they hold the like discourse unto me; and if the letters of France do not arrive, before that the commissioners come to treat with me, I know not what to do. I judge by the discourse, which my secretary had with them to day, that the conference to morrow will be rather to prolong, than to advance the peace. It is hard to give them upon that point any other satisfaction, than that which they ought to have already received by the disowning of the said general seizure, and assurance of a discharge; if it be done as soon as the accommodation is resolved on. I have also signified unto them, and convinced them of the little foundation, which their complaints have, after all these acts of hostility, which have been exercised against France, in the taking of the fleet of Dunkirk, in the conjunction of Blake with Spain, and in the taking of the forts of

A. D. 1654. of America. The said commissioners had nothing to reply, but the lord protector, by reason of the war between France and Spain, doth not fear to answer and act, as if the power of the one and the other crown were not of any consideration unto him. I cannot yet attribute this fierceness, which they declare towards us, to any thing else than an affectation, and not a resolution of a breach. If it were with that design, the protector would have expected a confirmation of the seizure, which this day's letters would have brought, had it not been for the bad weather. Without doubt he will make a noise, and affect great zeal for the merchants; yet their complaints shall not hinder me to press to morrow for satisfaction to be given me upon the difficulties, which do yet remain to be decided.

April 8, 1655. [N. S.]

Bordeaux, *the French ambassador in England, to count Brienne.*

April 8, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 448.

HAVING within these two days sent to press the resolution of my lord protector, the secretary of state and one of my commissioners sent me word, that his highness had advice of a general arrest upon all the ships and goods of the English, which are in the ports of France; and till such time as he should be fully informed, he would not proceed any further in the treaty.

The said secretary did write a word or two to me upon that subject, and sent me the merchants petition, which did confirm, that their goods were seized on, and that at Havre they had unladen some of their merchandises. These complaints and this answer caused me to let them know, that I had no advice of the said seizure; that the king being to set forth a fleet might have caused his ports to be shut, as is usually done in other states; but that the English were no more interested in it than other nations. And although that these reports were true, they ought rather to advance than retard the accommodation, to the end that all subject of bitterness might be removed; and if so be they should pretend under some one pretence or other to delay me here, there needs nothing more be done than to send me a pass. One of my said commissioners took upon him to make report, without giving me any hope of an answer. Till that the post arrive, I cannot tell what to resolve; but that being come, I will make an end one way or other within four and twenty hours; after the ministers of this state publishing and likewise declaring to me, that it doth concern them in honour to have satisfaction before they conclude any thing, to the end it may not be said, that they were made to agree by this means.

To cure this scruple, I told them, that his majesty doth not pretend to force them to a peace; but though he should have seized on the goods of the English, it would be with more justice than there was, when his ships of war were taken, and his forts in America. And since he had no preliminary reparation made him of those acts of hostility, so likewise this government could not expect any, and ought to be contented to have their goods discharged, after that the peace is concluded, which I could assure them would be done. In my last audience I gave them to understand the condition France was in, and how that we needed not to apprehend England. It is true, they might disturb our trade; but we should be able to do them no less prejudice in point of commerce.

All the prisons are full here of the royal party: it doth pass for current here, that the lord Fairfax had agreed with the king to rise for him; and had caused the lord Wilmot to come; but finding the design not likely to take, did discover the whole bottom to the protector. They pretend they will try their prisoners at the common courts of judicature. Here are lately dead two famous persons, the duke of Richmond, and sir Theodore Mayerne; the first died this afternoon, and the other some few days since, aged 83 years, and had his senses to the very last.

Bordeaux, *the French ambassador in England, to his father.*

April 8, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 444.

I STILL find my self deceived in my expectations. My commissioners sent me word to night, that they would speak with some of my attendants. I sent unto them the secretary. The two commissioners declared unto him, that his highness had ordered them to signify unto me, that he would not proceed any further in the treaty till such time that the

the king had given satisfaction for the general seizure of the ships and goods belonging to the English. I charged my secretary not to receive any word whatsoever; but if the commissioners would charge him with it, that he should excuse it. And withal I bid him to tell them, that after I should have received an answer from the lord protector, I had nothing further to do, but to take my leave of them, if satisfaction were not given me. I thought, I should have had an answer ere now in writing, or else that they would have brought it themselves. This discourse did produce another message. An hour after word was brought me, that the commissioners would come to a conference with me at two of the clock in the afternoon. This conference may be followed with my departure; so that I see myself nearer than ever to go, and make by word of mouth all the compliments, which you would have wrote; and the breach doth pass already for so certain, that my merchant, in the apprehension of a seizure of all the effects of the English, hath refused to furnish me with money, since the arrival of this news; which doth a little trouble me. If I must be gone, I see no other course, but to sell my plate to the prejudice of my reputation. I cannot yet judge, whether this proceeding of the protector be affected to declare, that he sets but a little value upon France; or whether he, having little inclination to the peace, would make use of this pretence to break with the approbation of the publick, whose interest is considerable unto him, since it doth make for his establishment. Let happen what will, I am resolved not to stay any longer; and although the precipitation should be prejudicial, I cannot dispense with it in the condition, wherein my domestick affairs are at present, without money here, and without land at Paris, to acquit my bills of exchange.

A. D. 1655.

General Monck to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

THERE is one Finley (I suppose they call him, mr. John Finley) a Scotchman at London, who is conceived to be a privat agent for Charles Stuart, and the duke of York. This Finley is full faced, and browne haired. Hee uses at Robert Hume's a taylor in Black-horse-alley neare Fleet-Bridge, and at one Bizard's (who is alsoe a Scotchman borne at Aberdeene) living at the head of Fish-streete, or some where thereabout. Of which I thinke fitt to give you notice, to the end the said Finley may bee taken, secured and examined, for (I am informed) hee will bee found as aforesaid. I remaine

Dalkeith, Martii 29, 1655.

Your most affectionat friend and servant,

GEORGE MONCK.

N. de Bye, the k. of Poland's agent, to the protector.

Propositio serenissimo principi domino Oliverio Cromwellio, reipublicæ Angliæ, Scotiæ, ac Hiberniæ protectori, Westmonasterii die 29 Martii Anni 1655, tradita.

Serenissime princeps,

MIRUM absque dubio serenitati vestræ videbitur, quod aliquanto tardius benevolentia testificatione ac propensi animi declaratione ad serenitatem vestram accesserim; verum ubi perpendere lubet, quibus periculis bellisque implicatum sacra regia majestas dominus meus clementissimus in regnum successerit, ac quasnam expeditiones contra hostes obire coactus fuerit, facile admittet, quod graves et ancipites belli curæ animum ad exolvenda officia vicinis regnis et principibus applicare non permiserint.

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

Verumenimvero etiam in hoc flagrantissimo bello in animum revocans, quanta semper Poloniæ cum Anglica natione firma intercesserit et culta fuerit amicitia, non potuit suctum inter principes officium diutius differre, quin serenitati vestræ omnem benevolentiam animique propensionem contestaretur, pollicereturque se operam daturum, ut serenitas vestra sibi rebusque suis sacram regem majestatem dominum meum clementissimum optimè affectum intelligat; quod vicissim de serenitate vestra sacra regia majestas dominus meus clementissimus sibi pollicetur.

Quibus confusus utique sacra regia majestas dominus meus clementissimus nihil magis in votis habuit, quam veterem necessitudinem ac magis intimam animorum conjunctionem cum serenitate vestra ac Angliæ republica renovare, ac in perpetuum prorogare; im quoque congruum ac necessarium ducit serenitatem vestram per me intermedium ipsius certiore reddere, quomodo Moscoviæ dux, cum nihil hostilitatis ab illo pace perpetua freti vereretur, Cosacos rebelles contra sacram regem majestatem ad arma stimularit, fraudeque

Vol. III.

4 L

illorum

A. D. 1655.

illorum Smolenscum arcem per aliquot menses obsessam occupavit, ac nulla laceffitus injuria, nulla clarigatione præmissa, rupto jurato fœdere, quod cum illo Uladislaus rex frater sacre regie majestatis anno 1633 constituerat, injustissimum ac fraudulentum bellum florentissimo Polonie regno intulerit, mox violationem titulum Moscovie ducis, mox conspirationem in eum cum Tartaris, tandem quoque Polonorum in Moscoviam incursionem prætexens, quæ tamen utique a veritate longe sint aliena, ita quoque nullum earum exemplum adducere poterunt.

Qui enim prætextus? Quod aliquando, cum injuriæ, ut inter confinantes solet, ab hac vel illa parte exorirentur, proceres ac nobiles regni ad ipsum ducem scribentes, in exprimendo nomine vel titulis ducis enumerandis, aliquando etiam levissime unius literule omissione errarint? Cum in literis Moscovie ducis ad sacram regem majestatem scriptis similes errores deprehensi fuerint; regnique proceres solenni juramento in legatorum ejusdem præsentia affirmarint, se neque malitia, neque studio, neque contumelia aliqua, sed mera ignorantia aliquos titulos omisisse.

Quæ præterea in eum conspiratio cum Tartaris? Quæ Polonorum in Moscoviam invasio dici poterit? Cum sacra regia majestas studio pacis ducta ipsa Chami Crimensis literarum originalia, quibus sacram regiam majestatem ad ineundum contra Moscovie ducem fœdus armorumque conjunctionem stimularat, Moscovie duci transmiserit, eumque de destinatis Chami Crimensis præmonuerit.

Neque tamen novum dici posset tale fœdus, cum ab immemorabili tempore Tartari stipendiarii sint regum Polonie, quibus certa pecuniæ summa quotannis a regibus Polonie stipendii nomine numeratur, ea conditione, ut Tartari contra regni Polonie hostes, præsertim Moschos, ubi necessitas requisiverit, bellarent; sicuti etiam præterito bello, quod Uladislaus rex contra Moschos gessit, Tartaros tanquam stipendiarios suos adscivit, opeque eorum usus sit.

Imo vero occasio, occasio inquam, eum ad hanc manifestam perfidiam stimulavit; postquam enim Polonie regnum contra Cosacos implicatum videret, ea uti volens, Lithuaniam et Russiam, quibus jam diu inhiavit, igne ac ferro omnia devastans sceleratè invasit.

Hinc serenitas vestra facile colligere poterit, quantum et serenitati vestræ reique publicæ Angliæ interfit, ne in detrimentum vicinorum regnorum et ipsius Britannicæ potentia Moscovitica in immensum crescat, cui imposterum, ubi Polonie et Lithuanicæ provincias occupavit, sibi subjecerit, resistere nimis durum tardumque foret. Quid enim superba ac barbara gens spiret; quid et Angliæ, si commoda occasio, qua pacta et fœdera metiri solet, daretur, cogitet; facile ex illatis jam antehac mercatoribus ac Angliæ nationi injuriis innotescant.

Quapropter sacra regia majestas, dominus meus clementissimus, firmiter sibi pollicetur confiditque, quod serenitas vestra Moscho auxilia mittere, arma suppeditare, aut militem ex Anglia educere minimè sit permissura. Verum e contrario cum Moschus jam omnes, quotquot habet, vires in Lithuaniam converterit, nudis aliis imperii sui lateribus relictis, opportuna ulciscendæ injuriæ, gloriæ propagandæ, ac Britannici imperii dilatandi occasio serenitati vestræ nata videtur, quod facile serenitas vestra sibi persuadere patietur, ut classe aliquot saltem navium portum Moscoviticum Archangeli nuncupatum impetere, viresque nonnullas contra eundem vertere velit, quibus non tantum animos ac viros Moschorum in diversas partes trahere, et diversionem facere, verum etiam Polonie regnum, quod semper antimurale Christianitatis fuit, ab hac barbara gente eliberare poterit.

Quod certè sacra regia majestas regnumque Polonie non solummodo in firmum amicitie testimonium sunt accepturi, verum etiam serenitati vestræ benevolentia, studio, et ope, ubi requisiti fuerint, respondere æternum sese obstrictos profitebuntur.

Quibus serenitati vestræ reique publicæ Angliæ omnia fausta omniumque rerum incrementa apprecor, gratumque ac maturum, prout rei necessitas jam requirit, responsum operiar. Interim manebo

Serenitatis vestræ

Humillimus ac officiosissimus servitor,

N. DE BYE.

Examination of mr. Saint Loc. [Taken by secretary Thurloe.]

March 29, 1655.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 490.

MR. Saint Lowe: he saith that about halfe a yeare agoe mr. Penruddocke came to his house, and acquainted him, that there was intended a general rising all over England for the kinge, and that this rising was to be upon Valentine's day, after which the kinge himself would be here; and to perswade this examinee to joyne with them in it, said all

all the countrie would joyne with them in it, and that sir William Waller was to head the cittie, and Penruddocke to undertake Wiltshire, and other gentlemen the other counties; he said further, that the levelling party in the army were discontented, and would oppose the protector. A. D. 1655.

He said, he went afterwards to the house of mr. Penruddocke, where he met with one mr. Thornbury, whose father was sequestered, and there this examinee and mr. Penruddocke discoursed of the aforesaid business, when Penruddocke told him, that colonel Bennet and some other of their partie were taken at London, which had disappointed them, and their day was put off; but said the examinee should heare of it, when another day was appointed. He saith he doth not knowe, whether mr. Thornbury heard this discourse.

He saith, that he had a third meeting at the house of this examinee. Mr. Penruddocke and his brother came to hym and told hym, that the business was much dashed, but that they should knowe more very shortly; and saith, that they should have mett at a great horse race to have beene at Salisbury about the 15th of February, but that being forbidden they were disappointed in that.

He saith, that the examinee went to the house of mr. Penruddocke on friday before the rising, and then Penruddocke told hym, that all was ready, and they were to rise upon monday after, and askt him whether he had furnisht himselfe with armes; and this examinee answered him, that he had not, in respect he thought the business was over; but Penruddocke pressed him to goe home, and get ready; and soe he did, and promised him to meet him upon monday, which he did accordingly, and came to them before they came to Blandford, and went with them to Sherborn, and there left them.

He saith, that Penruddocke was before this with Grove and several others in Wiltshire, and sir Henry More, to have fallen upon the horse at Marlborough; but the horse keeping strong guard, they were discouraged; and their design was to have 12 men gon in in a cart, and they to have seized upon the horses in the stables, whilst those without fell on, and saith, that Mack of Salisbury was to have been chiefe in the business, and it was to have been some weeks before.

He saith, that when they were at Blandford, they spake of several gentlemen, who they said would come in, and sent to mr. Butler of Hanley, and went to his house and some others, but found hym not.

He further saith, that the marquess of Hertford was expected with them, and that mr. Penruddocke told him, that the marquess was engaged, and that the lady Phillips, as he said, told him soe. And being asked, whether mr. Penruddocke did not tell him, he had beene with the m. of Hertford, he saith, he did, as he remembers, when he first spake with hym. And being further askt about it, he saith, Penruddocke told hym, that he knew of his owne knowledge, that the m. of Hertford was engaged, and bid hym take his word for it, and saith, that he told hym he had beene with hym.

The information of Richard Rowe, of Henisham, taken the 29th day of March, 1655, upon oath, before Francis Swanton, esq; viz.

BEING asked, where he was on sunday and monday the 11th and 12th of this instant Vol. xxiv. March, when the rebellion broke out at Salisbury, saith, that he was at esquire P. 491. Willoughby's house, and came thither on sunday at night, and there remained until wednesday; and this examinee further saith, that night he came to esquire Willoughby's, he was not at home, and that he was at Salisbury: and further saith, that William Breman, one of mr. Willoughby's servants, did take this examinee's horse out of mr. Willoughby's stable at Knoyle the funday night, and did ride him away to the rebels, as the said Breman told this informant, at Salisbury, and was there with the rebels that did rise on monday morning; and this examinee further saith, that mr. Richard Greene the elder and esquire Willoughby came to Salisbury upon sunday night, and one Richard Sheene of Meere, bailiff of that hundred, came along with him, and his servant, and George Barnes servant to esquire Willoughby came to Salisbury with his master; and this informant being asked what company did resort to mr. Willoughby's house the week before the rising at Salisbury; this examinee saith, that there was a great company, amongst which there was mr. Henry Butler, mr. John Butler, mr. Langford, mr. Hollis, mr. Edward Hyde of Hatch, mr. John Mervin of Pertwood: the servants that were with them, are these that followeth; mr. Hollis two men, mr. Henry Butler a man and a boy, and mr. Edward Hyde one man; and saith, that mr. Butler and mr. Hollis staid near a week at mr. Willoughby's house. Being asked where they did use to keep their rendezvous; this examinee saith, they went one day to Hindon, and saith they were another day at Meere, and sometimes did go a fox hunting, where divers countrymen did come in to them, but what they did at their meetings this examinee knoweth not.

Taken before FRANCIS SWANTON.

The mark of
RICHARD [] ROWE,

The

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He saith, that Penruddocke was before this with Grove and severall others in Wiltshire, and sir Henry More, to have fallen upon the horse at Marlborough; but the horse keeping strong guard, they were discouraged; and their design was to have 12 men gon in in a cart, and they to have seized upon the horses in the stables, whilst those without fell on, and saith, that Mack of Salisbury was to have been chiefe in the business, and it was to have been some weeks before.

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Taken before FRANCIS SWANTON.

The mark of
RICHARD [] ROWE,

The

Salop.

The information of Richard Jones of Weston, gentleman, aged 27 years, or thereabouts, taken before me Humphrey Mackworth, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the said county, this 29th of March, 1655, in the presence of commissary general Reynolds.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxiv.
P. 492.

THAT about a month since one mr. Cleyton, born in Cheshire, lately come out of France and Holland, as he himself saith, about two months before that time, met this informant upon the way, between Chirke and Westonkhyng, and after some renewing old acquaintance, he asked him, whether he knew or had heard any thing of a design of rising in England, to which this informant replied, that he heard not of any such; whereupon he asked, in case he could shew a probable way of prevailing, whether I would not engage, to which I replied, that my condition was altered since my first acquaintance with him, and that I had a wife, and partly a family, and that I would not engage; upon which he urged, that if I knew what preparations there were, I would not deny rising. Thereupon I demanded what probabilities there were of that design; he then told me, that there was a party to appear in the north, and another in the west, and in several other places of the nation. I demanded, what garrisons, or places of refuge, would be secured; he said, that there was or would be by the time of rising. I asked, if garrisons failed, what would then become of the party, which would rise; he replied, that six regiments of the army were engaged, and would appear: being asked the names of the colonels, he answered, that he knew them not. When I seemed to pause upon the discourse, he told me, that he would not court me unto it, but that if I liked of it, he would be at Wrexham on monday following, and would, if I came thither, give me as much knowledge of the design as he had: this time appointed was three days before the fair at Wrexham. Upon my engaging under hand to go along with him, he then told me, that he was going into Cheshire, where he knew that there were at least six; and if but ten or twelve would engage with him, he knew that he could pass securely to the party in the north, whither he intended to go. I asked him, who would head the party; to which he answered, that as good men as were in England would appear; and going afterwards to a house which used to sell ale, but there then being none, thereupon parted; and since that time I heard not from him.

RICHARD JONES.

Salop.

The deposition of Richard Jones of Weston, in the county of Salop, gent. aged 27 years, or thereabouts, taken before me Humphrey Mackworth, esq; one of the justices of the peace within the county, upon oath, March 29, 1655.

THIS deponent being asked, whether he had no knowledge of a rising intended in this county, saith, that he hath mentioned all the knowledge he had thereof in his information preceding: being demanded, whether he was not acquainted with some attempt intended by sir Thomas Harris and a party upon Shrewsbury, upon thursday the 8th instant, he saith, that he was not acquainted with any such purpose or design, but doth believe, that there was an intention of rising in this county, and in most parts of England. Being asked, who this mr. Cleyton was, who is mentioned in this deponent's information, he saith, that he knew him in the late king's army, and that he had been a quarter-master, but was, when he knew him, a horseman in sir Thomas Howard's regiment and troop, and pretended to scholarship, and afterwards he belonged to a knight in London, and went to the north, and came with duke Hamilton into Lancashire; after whose defeat this deponent saw him in Chester, and immediately after went beyond the seas, and returned about Midsummer last, or before, into South-wales, and went back into France and Holland; and about two months before the meeting mentioned in the information of this deponent, he the said Thomas Cleyton returned into South-wales, being, as he said, employed upon some business of secrecy. What since became of the said Thomas Cleyton, this deponent cannot tell, further than is mentioned in his said information.

RICHARD JONES.

Being further demanded, whether he was not, at the time of his being at Boreaston, on Thursday the 8th instant, in company with sir Thomas Harris and other gentlemen, acquainted with some purpose of their coming in the same night to Shrewsbury, he saith, that he was not, neither was inquisitive concerning any design, lest miscarrying it should be imputed to him, as having discovered the same.

RICHARD JONES.

The examination of Thomas Rogers of Burgedine in the said county, gent. taken Montg. at Welch Pool the 29th day of March 1655, before Thomas Lloyd, esq; high sheriff of the said county, Hugh Price and Thomas Niccolls, esqrs; justices of the peace of the said county; on the behalf of the commonwealth, touching the late plot contrived to raise forces against the lord protector and the present government.

THE said examine saith, that upon friday the 2d day of March 1654, he went to A. D. 1655.
 to mr. Ralph Kynaston of Pentrehelin to desire him to go along with this examine Vol. xxiv.
 to mr. Kynaston's of Brangwynn to speak in his behalf concerning tythes; and the same P. 497.
 time mr. Kynaston of Pentrehelin asked this examine what was the news; and this examine saith, that he told him that he had none. And further saith, that the said mr. Ralph Kynaston told this examine, that he heard there was great news stirring in this kingdom; and thereupon this examine did ask him what it was; and the said mr. Ralph Kynaston told him, that he should know when he next met him; and upon tuesday next following, being the 6th day of March aforesaid, the said mr. Kynaston sent for this examine, who accordingly went to him; whereupon the said mr. Kynaston told this examine, that the news which he did mention was come very near a period; and that upon thursday following in the afternoon the castle of Shrewsbury was to be surprised by some of the townsmen; and that sir Thomas Harris with his men were at the same time to take the town. And further being examined, saith, that the said Ralph Kynaston asked this examine, whether he knew of any men in his neighbourhood, that would engage upon that design, meaning to go along with sir Thomas Harris to take Shrewsbury; and this examine told him, he knew of none. And further this examine saith, that the said mr. Kynaston asked this examine, whether his brother Arthur Vaughan were at home, and if he were, he desired this examine to send him to speak with the said mr. Ralph Kynaston the next morning; and this examine and his brother went to the said mr. Kynaston on the morrow, and found him at Maefbrooke in an alehouse with six or seven strangers which this examine knew not, saving one of them called Truston; and when his brother Arthur and mr. Ralph Kynaston were met in the alehouse aforesaid, they both went to the backside, and there spoke privately; and upon their departure this examine saith, that he asked his brother Arthur what discourse they had in private, and the said Arthur told this examine, that mr. Kynaston would have engaged him in the design aforesaid; and the said Arthur, told this examine that he refused to engage himself in the said design. And further this examine saith, that coming home, the said mr. Kynaston told him, he would not go upon that design, but that he would send some men to sir Thomas aforesaid to further the said design; and further saith, that upon the 8th day of March 1654, being thursday, this examine being at Llandrinio at the house of one William Smith, the said Kynaston came in and said, that the intended plot was discovered in Shrewsbury: and further is not examined.

THOMAS LLOYD.
 HUGH PRICE.
 THOMAS NICCOLLS.

THOMAS ROGERS.

The deposition of Thomas Rogers of Burgedine in the said county, gent. aged 32 Montg. years, or thereabouts, sworn and examined the 29 day of March 1655.

DEPOSETH, that upon the 19th day of March 1654, this deponent being in bed at his Vol. xxiv.
 father-in-law's, mr. John Vaughan of Tretherwen, mr. Ralph Kynaston of Pentrehe- P. 501.
 lin came unto this deponent's bed-side, and told him, that the plot was discovered by a colonel of the army, and that he was to go to Red Castle according to his engagement the night before to the deputy of the said county. And the said mr. Kynaston told this deponent, that the last night some company called at his house after he went to bed; this deponent asking him who they were, the said mr. Kynaston told him they were some men from Colfrin, and that he thought one called David Ap Hugh of Colfrin was one of them, and further is not examined.

THOMAS LLOYD.
 HUGH PRICE.
 THOMAS NICCOLLS.

THOMAS ROGERS.

The deposition of Edward Edwards of Maesbrooke in the county of Salop, gent. aged 34 years, or thereabouts, being sworn and examined the day and year aforesaid.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxiv.
p. 501.

DEposeth, that upon the 8th day of March 1655, about four hours in the night, this deponent saw three horsemen at the house of Ralph Kynaston of Pentrehelin, gent. one of them having a case of pistols and holsters, the other two each of them a sword, who asked this deponent whether he saw any soldiers that night: then this deponent said, that he saw some soldiers, meaning, as this deponent saith, the deputy sheriff of the said county and his company; and further saith, that they asked this deponent, whether he were a servant belonging to mr. Ralph Kynaston; and thereupon this deponent told them, he was a servant belonging to the house; then one of them which had the case of pistols before him, who by report was called sir Arthur Blayney of Tregunow, asked this deponent, whether he would take his pistols, and keep them until he should call for them; and thereupon this deponent answered, that God willing he would not meddle with them nor their pistols, but said, secure your pistols, and let your pistols secure you. And further being demanded whether he saw any more men that night by his master's house, or betwixt that place and the new bridge, saith, that he heard there were some company there, but who or what number there were he knoweth not: and further is not required to depose.

THOMAS LLOYD.
HUGH PRICE.
THO. NICCOLLS.

EDWARD EDWARDS.

At the meeting of the commissioners for the militia of London.

Friday, March 29, 1655.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 499.

THE commissioners now further considering the proposal of the commanders of the three regiments now raised in this city and liberties, that the commissioners would allow the exercise of arms in the Artillery-garden, London, did resolve and order,

1. That the citizens of London, such as are desirous, and shall be approved and allowed by the commissioners for the militia, or any seven of them, shall be admitted to exercise arms in the Artillery-garden, London, as an artillery company, observing such rules and directions, as they shall from time to time receive from his highness the lord protector, or the commissioners for the militia.

2. That major general Skippon be nominated to his highness, to be commander of the said company.

Mr. John Dove to secretary Thurloe.

DEERE SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 500.

IHAVE received yours of the 6th instant. Since my last to you I have had some of those gentlemen, that Lovelace nominated in his discovery, amongst whom, young mr. Tregonwell I have examined, and finde, upon good prooffe, that he and his servants never were out; and that Lovelace, when they were brought face to face, did not knowe the gentleman; soe I finde mr. John Tregonwell cleere as to this busines: he hath engaged to his highness in 2000 l. bond, to appeare, when called on, and not to act any thinge against his highness, nor the commonwealth, &c.

Sir, I understand a commission of oyer and terminer is issued out for tryall of the rebels in the West; and ther is a mistrust of my under sheriffe. Sir, I resolve, that not one man shall be returned in the one or other jury, but such as may be confided in, and of the honest well affected party to his highness and the present government. Yf there be but enough to be found of them throughout the whole county (which I hope there is) it is and will be my greatest care for that busines to see it punctually don, and not trust my under sheriffe therewith, that is soe much spoken against by some here, that would have had one of their relations bin my sheriffe, which, had either of them prevayl'd, I should not have trusted them in this great worke: there is such abominable falshood amongst some men now a dayes, that a man knoweth not whom to trust.

Sir, you would be glad to knowe, what men were fittest to be proceeded against in the first place; to which I give you my thoughts, humbly submitting to better judgements, that in the first place to proceed against the cheife and principall actors, that were com-

missionated,

missionated, as they said, by Charles Stewart; for if any of them goe free, it will doe much disharten the honest party of the country, that they will be affrayde to shewe themselves to act for his highness. Therefore due care must be had of that. A. D. 1655.

For the second place, against such as are knowne to be of implacable spirits in the country, and most disaffected to his highness and the present government. And in the third place, against such as thinke to escape by favour, and may remayne as nest eggs, to cherish others hereafter, that may prove a pest to his highness and the commonwealth.

Sir, I beleieve great suit is and wil be made to his highnes for some of the principal actors, by reason of relations; but I am confident his highnes will looke more upon the publique good, then there addresses, as the case now standeth with England, &c.

Sir, the county of Dorset I heare have a commission for the militia. I feare some may stop the sendinge one hither, on pretence of ease to the country. Be confident, that if it be delayed, it may prove dangerous.

Sir, those forces I have already raysed, I have no rule or instructions what to doe, or how to pay them. I desire you move his highnes about it.

Sir, I doe what I may to finde out the first actors. Sir, they be cunning fellows. The Lord God bringe their evill counsell to naught. I ame,

Sarum, March 29, 1655.

Sir, your affectionate friend and servant,

JOHN DOVE.

The deposition of Edward Bayly of Rhysnant in the said county, sworne and examined Montg. the 29th day of March, at Poole, before Thomas Lloyd, esq; sheriff, Hugh Price, and Thomas Niccolls, esq; touching the discovery of the late plot, contrived to raise forces against his highness the lord protector and the present government.

THE said examine faith, that mr. Ralph Kynaston sent his brother-in-law, Joseph Jones, to desire the said deponent to come to speak with him upon tuesday the 6th day of March last; whereupon this deponent went along with the said Joseph Jones and one Humphrey Thomas of Llandregeon in the said county, unto the house of the said mr. Kynaston, where he was demanded, whether he was a cavalier, or a round-head. This deponent answered, that he would neither make nor meddle with either side; and then the said mr. Kynaston told this deponent, that the army was divided, and that the one half was for the king, and desired him to go with him, and he would provide him a horse, as he believed, to go in arms against the lord protector; whereupon the said mr. Kynaston desired him the said deponent to consider of it against the next morning, and then to give him his answer. This deponent then told him, that he would have no further to do with him. Then the said mr. Kynaston wished him to speak no more of it; and further faith not.

EDWARD BAYLY.

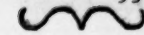
THOMAS LLOYD.

HUGH PRICE.

THOMAS NICCOLLS.

The deposition of Griffith Pugh, of Hauleton in the abovesaid county, aged 32, or thereabouts, sworn and examined the time and place abovesaid, before us, as touching the discovery of the said plot.

DEPOSETH, and faith, that upon the 8th day of this instant March, one Griffith Evans of Llandrinio, in the said county, came to this deponent, being a messenger from mr. John Penryn of Llandrinio aforesaid, as he affirmed, and said, that the said mr. Penryn did desire the said deponent and Hugh Pugh his brother, and one Richard ap Robert, both of Hauleton aforesaid, to come that night to the said mr. Penryn's wedding, about half an hour in the night to the dwelling house of mr. Smith of Llandrinio aforesaid, and wished them to come on horseback and with swords, and wished this deponent to borrow his brother Solomon's horse, which he did accordingly; and the deponent, in pursuance of the said desire, did acquaint his brother Hugh with the said mr. Penryn's desire. And this deponent did likewise the same day acquaint the said Richard ap Robert with the said mr. Penryn's desire; and at length this deponent ask'd the said Richard ap Robert about the tyme desired, by the said mr. Penryn did ride on horseback to the place appointed, but found not any body there, but he, Smith's wife, and one Edward Gelking; but this deponent, nor the said Richard, did not go into the said

A. D. 1655.  faid Smith's house, nor make any stay there; but returned back and went home. And further depofeth, that the faid Griffith Evans the time aforefaid told this deponent, that mr. John Matthews the younger was to procure the match for the faid mr. Penryn; and it was to come from the upper country towards Llauvillin, and that none of the company should return till after saturday following. And further depofeth, that he did not know any thing of the faid plot; but that he being upon friday following, being the 16th of this instant March, at a mill at Pentrehelin, in the county of Salop, near this county, where one John Davy miller told him, that he heard, that there was some great shire the night before in a field near Llanymynych, and that therein met together 60 or 80 men at the least. And further depofeth, that he doth believe there was something else intended by the faid mr. Penryn, than a wedding, as it appears to this deponent. And this deponent doth likewise believe, that he the faid mr. Penryn did intend to ingage in the faid late plot and rebellion; and further cannot depofe.

GRIFFITH [] PUGH
his mark.

THOMAS LLOYD.
HUGH PRICE.
THOMAS NICCOLLS.

March 29, 1655.

Griffith Evans, of Llandrinio aforefaid, yeoman, aged 25 years, or thereabouts, likewise sworn and examined before us the faid time and place, against the faid mr. Penryn, touching the faid plot, depofeth and faith,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 505.

THAT upon thursday, the 8th day of March aforefaid, the faid mr. Penryn sent for this deponent to come to speak with him; which this deponent did, and then the faid mr. Penryn did desire this deponent to go from him that day to the former deponent Griffith Pugh, to wish him to come that night about the twilight to the faid Smith's house, to go along with the faid mr. Penryn for a wife, up to Wales, which mr. John Matthews would help him unto; and that the faid Griffith should come on horseback, and with a sword if he had one, and wished that he the faid Griffith should speak to the faid Richard ap Robert to come likewise on horseback, and with a sword, and that the faid mr. Penryn would be glad, if Hugh Pugh would come with him that night to the faid wedding; and further depofeth, that he went the faid day, according to the faid mr. Penryn's desire, to the faid Griffith, and acquainted him with the faid message, who told this deponent, that he would come according to the faid message, and perform the faid mr. Penryn's desire; the rest and this deponent did, in the evening of the faid day, go to the faid Smith's house, to the faid mr. Penryn, who then told this deponent, that he would not go that night for his wife. And further depofeth, that the faid mr. Penryn at first that day told this deponent, that he would not return three days after; and faith further, that there was at the faid Smith's house that evening the faid mr. Penryn and Matthias Lloyd in company together, which this deponent left then there. And this deponent being examined upon his oath, of what he thinks the faid mr. Penryn's intention was touching the faid marriage, this deponent thinks, as things fall out since, the faid mr. Penryn did intend to engage and join with others, that were engaged in the faid plot against the present government. And further depofeth, that he on the morrow after, being the 9th of this instant March, was at a mill at Pentrehelin, where Robert Peirce is miller, in this county, where he heard the faid miller say, that he heard that there was many men risen and gathered together, from Maesbrooke and thereabouts, and that they were together the night before at Llanymynych, and that it was reported, that they were to come to meet mr. Ralph Kynaston; but for what end he doth not know; and further cannot depofe.

The mark of
GRIFFITH [] EVANS.

THOMAS LLOYD.
HUGH PRICE.
THOMAS NICCOLLS.

The examination of Richard ap Robert.

Vol. xlii.
p. 237.

Richard ap Robert, of Haulton aforefaid, aged 21 years, or thereabouts, a witness likewise sworn and examined before us, the time and place aforefaid, against the faid mr. Penryn, touching the faid plot, depofeth and faith, that Griffith Pugh, the former deponent, came to this deponent, in the evening of the faid 8th day of March, and acquainted

acquainted this deponent, that the said Griffith Evans came to the former deponent, A. D. 1655. Griffith Pugh, as a messenger from the said Penryn, and desired him to come and give notice to this deponent, to come along with him about half an hour in the night of the same day, on horseback, with swords, to the said Smith's house; and to bring with them two clean bands apiece, and that they were to go with the said Mr. Penryn to his wedding; and this deponent did accordingly go in company of the said Griffith Pugh, both being on horseback, and armed with a sword apiece; and took two clean bands apiece with them, and came the time before mentioned to the said Smith's house, where they saw only the said Smith's wife and one David Gethin by the house; and having enquired for Griffith Evans, who had been bidding the said Griffith to the wedding; who, as the said Smith's wife was not there, this deponent and the said Griffith returned back, and went home. And being examined, what he conceives the said Penryn's intention was by the said wedding; this deponent doth believe now, as things fell out, that the said Penryn had some other intention there than to be married, and that this deponent and others were deluded by him; and this deponent doth believe, that this Penryn did intend to rise in arms with those that were engaged in the said plot; and further cannot depose.

RICHARD AP ROBERT.

HUGH PRICE.
LEWIS PRICE.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

I HAV received your letter of the 26th of February, which should have com to Vol. xxiv. I hand last week with the rest of the letters from London of that date, and then I P. 467. had sav'd the charge, which now I must be at, to send an expres with the inclosed letter for general Blak. His pinnaes departed hence six dayes since with what letters I then had for him. I hope to get the French pryz unladen in two dayes, when I shal dispatch her away unto him imediatly; and this is the only saf conveyance I can at present fynd to send your letter unto the general, wherein you may pleas to be assured, all possible celerity and dilligence is and shall be used. What I formerly writ you of the arryval of the 7 sail French ships at Tollon, which wer chafft into Lisbon by general Blak, is most certainly true; the lyk of 15 Spanish ships arryved at Naples; but for the Portugal fleete to com into thes seas, althoh much talkt of, yet uncertain, except the pope (not yet made) prov French, and way made by that king to receiv the Portugall ambassadors at Rom: in such case no doubt but king John wil send a potent fleete to shew his greatnes. I know not whether I may er or no, but in my best judgement, thes few years of good government, which that nation has had since theyr separation from Spayn, has made them as considerable by sea, as either Spayn or France. Yesterday arryved here a bark from Marsellia in twenty four howers, from whence the general vois is, that a war with Ingland is very nere proclaiming, and that Inglish ships are deteyned. Six shippes and six gallyes ar redy to put to sea with soldiers and amunition, given out for Rosas in Cattalogna; but most thinke theyr desyn was to hav brauht men for Italy to hav helped the duke of Modena; but 'tis now needles, for that duke has made a shift himselfe alone to beat home the Spanish forces for Millan. This duke of Modena pretends to the citty and territorryes of Ferrara, which pope Urban tooke from him as feodary to the church; and now in this *fede vacante*, as the general report goes, this duke has som hopes of recovery of sayd state, and on this score he has raised about ten thousand men; whereupon the Spanyard, as lord paramount of Italy, pretended to cal him to account, enters his country with an army, and was wel beaten back hom to his dores, with the los of a frontier castel. The great duke, as I understand, treats for an accomodation betwixt them. The Spanish ships of war at Naples are fitting to be redy for the sea next month. They wil mak them up 20 sail and 18 sail of gallyes. The Dutch here report, they are to furnish the king of France with 40 sail of shippes for this somer's servis, and that his hynes the protector requires of them the lyk quantity, which they denied. We do not hear discover any integrity in that nation since the late war. The chief desyn of the Spanish fleete is to transport men for Barsalona from Naples, and to observ what the French fleete does, espetially against Italy. We hear noe certain newes, what passes betwixt the Spanyards and the Genowes, but suppose, according to that nation's gravity, they wil tyre them out with a tedious treaty, which in conclusion shal signifie nothinge.

Two dayes since I received a letter from Cales, from the gentleman I sent thither by your command (Mr. Bartholomew Harris.) He wryts me, his 4 monthes fallery is exhaust

VOL. III.

4 N

with

A. D. 1655. with the tyme, and that it is not possible for him to subsist under two peices of eight (or dollars) a day in that deare countrey; which I humbly recommend unto your consideration. I doubt not but when he shal have received your instructions, he will faithfully and dilligently answer all your commands. I am most humbly thankfull for the frendly assistance you promis in recommending my petition to his highnes. I am very sensible of what you say, that ther is no president of such a grace or favour: however your good patronage, I dout not, but wil bringe the defyred issue (a reparation of my losses in thes seas by the French) and since I understand it is his highnes wil, what is taken from that nation be distributed to the sufferars, it would perpetually oblige me unto you, that general Blak might hav order to pay me my losses, being sta. — out of what he has taken from the French: by this means I may hav hopes to se my country the sooner, and ther your worthy selfe, to render you all due thanks for soe great a favour. I hartilly rejois at the tymly discovery and prevention of the disturbers of our peace at hom, by securing theyr persons. Here hav bin great alarums made, as if al England had bin lost; but now the world may se (not babes, but) the sons of nobles ar our governors. You will se here inclosed what was writ from Holland this week to one in this town. Al possible dilligence is and shal be used in procuring his hynes Neapolitan horses, but the truth is, I would hav non but the very best, and thos that hav them are as loath to part with them. You shall suddenly hav a good account of this busines from,

Leghorn, April 9, 1655. [N. S.]

Right honourable,

your most faithful servant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

Sir Marmaduk Langdal wryts from Coullen to sir Theophilus Gilby, in this prince's servis, thus; the king departed this weeke towards England; he told me of his intents but the nyght before; soe could not dispatch to goe with him, but will suddenly follow.

Chanut, the French ambassador in Holland, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Hague, April 9, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 453.

THAT which you were pleased to write to me of the affairs of England hath destroyed a great number of informations and advice, which were given here of the great success of the affairs of the king of England. A man must be very cautious in giving credit to their reports, their zeal having made them so blind, that they are soon persuaded into belief of good success.

I bleis God from my heart, that your negotiation is renewed. I cannot but think well of it, since there doth remain nothing more than the difference mentioned in your letter. I hope, that the lord protector hath as much interest as we have, not to leave any hope to those, who henceforward should frame new revolts under new pretences. The form of the present government of England doth seem more exposed to that sickness than ours. In short, I did hold your treaty as good as done. I will not fail of a compliment, which is really due to the good offices of monsieur Nieuport; and I give you thanks, my lord, for giving me advice thereof; but I conceive it will be more convenient to stay till the next week before I do it, for then it may be done more largely, when we shall see the effects of his labours.

An information of mr. Robert Wiseman concerning mr. Read.

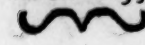
SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 197.

ABOUT a fortnight after Christmas, there came one mr. Read to my house, to desire me, I would take in cure his soare legg, saying withall, that hee had been a great while under the hands of those of my profession, and was never the better. His soare legge I undertooke, and had well nigh cured itt, when hee was committed to the Tower, where after the said Read had been 3 or 4 dayes a prisoner, hee sent for mee to come and dresse his legge by one Steere, a warder of the Tower, and his keeper. The first time this Steere came to my house, I was dressing a patient in our streett; and when my servant told mee, that mr. Read's keeper desired to speake to mee, I bidde him to give the said Steere a peice of emplaister for mr. Read, and to denie him the speaking with mee. The next daye

A. D. 1655.

daye the said Steere comes to mee againe, and brings mee a note from mr. Read, which was to desire mee earnestlie to come and dresse his legge, and soe did the said Steere, telling mee, there was noe danger in itt; I had the lieutenant's leave: it was a thinge very ordinary, and could bringe noe prejudice to mee. I replyed, it was true, mr. Read had been my patient, and was my debtor for what I had donne; yett I was a housekeeper, and mr. Read a criminall, and I would not doe any thinge that might drawe the least disrepute upon mee; and soe in short told him, I would not goe. Notwithstanding this the said Read sends mr. Deane's man the next morning, to whom I returned the said answer as formerly. The next day came mr. Steere againe, and prest mee very earnestly from mr. Read to goe, telling mee, he was very ill; upon which I told him, since he assured mee there was noe danger in going to him, I would not faile to see him the next daye. The next daye about three a clock I went to the Tower, enquired for mr. Steere, whoe came to mee, and conducted mee to mr. Read, and was present during my stay there: there passed little discourse betweene us, save that he desired mee to speake to mr. Thomas Mackworth for money that he owed him, and to keepe it in my hands for his use. When I tooke my leave of him, he desired to see mee oft; I told him, once in eight or ten dayes would bee enough, I leaving him employsters in the interim to dresse himselfe. During his imprisonment I was not with him more than three or four times. The last tyme I was with him, I had not employsters enough in my boxe to leave him to dresse himselfe with, but told him I would send him some the thursday following; as alsoe a dose of pills, which I did accordingly by my servant. The sunday following the lieutenant of the Tower sends for mee to come to him by two a clocke, which when my servant acquainted mee with, I hastened dinner, and soe immediately I went to the Tower attended by my servant. In Cannon Streete I meett a servant of my lord Crayford (whoe knewe that I used to come to Read) whoe asked mee, whither I was going? I told him to the Tower. He replyed, I faith you will bee held fast, for Read, whoe you used to come to, hath been attempting his escape, and is in irons. I replyed, what was that to me? And soe made noe stop, till I came to the Tower; where after a while I was brought to the lieutenant, who accused mee of having sent that aqua fortis to Read. I enquired when it came; the lieutenant replied, on thursday last at three of the clocke in the afternoone. I told him, my servant had been there that day at eleven a clock with pills and employsters; and soe I called in my servant to the lieutenant, whoe examined him, and after he had taken my examination, I was dismissed, and soe I returned to my house, and continued the following my vocation till the 12th of March, being tuesday, and then about one of the clock coming home, my servant told me, that Steere, mr. Read's keeper, was drinking att the Anchor, and desired to speake mee, to whom I presently went. Asking his business, he gave mee a note, which when I begun to read, hee said itt desired privacy. I replyed, come to my house, and read it; soe taking him into a usuall roome, I read the note, and was extreemly surprized, gave Steere the note againe, and askt him, if he was resolved to carry mr. Read away. He answered, yes. I fell into a passion, and askt him, why mr. Read should send him to mee; I had noe obligation to him att all; I had taken much paines in cureing him, and was as yett unpaid: mr. Read had already putt mee to much trouble; I would have nothinge to doe with this; I would not hazzard my libertie for him. Steere then desired me to advise him: I asked Steere, if hee apprehended no hazzard in the attempting of the escape. Hee told mee, yes. I wisht him to have a care what hee did; for my part he had frightned my senses with the very mention of it. I could not tell what to advise; but if hee would come the next day at 12 a clock, I would consider of itt, and advise him. The said Steere asked, if I had noe good newes to cheere him up with. I answered, yes; there is strange newes, if trew: 'tis reported, that judge Rolls is taken prisoner att Salisbury, and the country is up. Do do heare nothing of it? Yes, replyed hee. I replyed, I will send him the 5 l. he sends to me for; and I praye you stirr not in the business, till you speake with mee to morrowe. The said Steere prest me earnestly to write to Read. I denied him several tymes; yett at last tooke a little bit of paper lying by me, and writt, as I remember, thus; Sir, those paines you complaine of will easily discusse, and soe will that paine in your head, without the taking of any course of physick; and soe without setting my name to itt, I gave it him, telling him, I had written something I knowe not what; yet was it truth, and in answer to that part of his letter, which concerned mee. Soe away goes Steere, leaving mee to my considerations, which was these; that if Steere should carry away Read, I having been already suspected, 'twas tenne to one, but the lieutenant would trouble mee for it. Again, should they be taken in the attempt by Steere's or Read's confession, I should be a partie, and soe again be troubled. If, on the other side, to free myselfe, I should discover their intentions to the lieutenant, it would cleere mee, but ruine my reputation amongst those of the royall partie, in whom my livelihood consisted; to avoyd which I resolved upon a thirde way, which was, that mr. Steere should with good language cleere him, and soe lett the lawe take its course. And this I told Steere, when hee came the next day; and withall forbid him my house, telling him,

A. D. 1655.  him, I would have nothinge to doe with itt; and that when I had a desire to speake with him, I would fend for him: so bidde him farewell. This impudent fellowe pressses mee to write a word or twoe to Reade; that otherwise Read would not beleieve hee had been with mee; upon which I called for a peece of emplayster, and writt upon a bitt of paper thus: *Sir, this peece of emplayster will, I hope, finish the cure, and soe I shall not trouble you further. I am your servant, R. Wiseman.* In this paper I rowled up the emplayster, and soe sent him packing; and I take God to witnes, this is all I ever writt to Read during his imprisonment; and that night, when I thought myselfe freest, was I fetched to the Tower out of my bedde betwixt twelve and one at night, and my house searched for armes and letters; but of those I was as innocent as of the former. As to the bottle of aqua fortis, I vowe to Almighty God, I knewe not of it, till my lord Crayford's man first, and then the lieutenant of the Tower told mee of itt.

On saturday March the 24th, betwixt 8 and 9 of the clock, Steere, the warder of the Tower, knockt att my chamber doore, to whom I opened it, and demanded his busines with mee. Hee replyed, hee came to see mee, and that mr. Read desired to bee remembered to mee, and began to tell me something; but I immediatly replyed, that I would heare nothinge of Read, nor would I have any discourse with him; telling him, that by his base misinformation I was imprisoned. I dared him to saye (before the gentleman that laye in bedd by the doore, where wee discoursed) whether I ever asked him, what hee was to have from Read, for the carrying of him away; or whether I ever preferred him 100l? He said, noe. I asked him, whether ever I had spoken any braving language to him, of fetching Reade out with a high hand? Hee said, noe. I asked him, whether he had ever carryed any letters from me to Reade, save twoe little papers, and the one with emplayster in itt? He said, noe; and withal hee said, truely if hee might be called face to face, hee could and would cleere me. This I desired major Harries to take in writing, and give mee under his hand; which hee presently did, and I have it to shewe; as alsoe another to that purpose from another prisoner belowe; for when Steere saw I would not admitt any discourse with him, hee takes his leave; and I, glad that I was rid of him, made my selfe ready, and came downe staires, and there I sawe Steere drinking with the keeper, whoe called mee to him, and desired mee to drinke with him, and told mee, hee had a note for mee, which I told him I would not meddle with; and withall desired the keeper, that a captain of a guard might bee fetcht to seize this Steere, and carry him before mr. secretary. My keeper refused itt; upon which I presently writt a letter to acquaint mr. secretary Thurlowe of his being here, and that he would please to fend for him, and examine him; but my letter could not be received soe soon, but that Steere was gone; and in truth I have no certainty, that my letter ever came to the secretarie's hands; yet was it left with the doore-keeper, whoe promised the delivery. And thus have I given you a true relation of my proceedinge with Steere.

[March 30, 1655.]

Mr. Francis Cheynell, &c. to col. Robert Tichborne.

SIR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 507.

WE thanke you for your affectionate care of this county. We do upon many considerations, but especially from intelligence sent us by col. Whetham, and the lieutenant governor of Portsmouth, major Monford, conceive ourselves to be in a greate deale of danger, both in this city of Chichester and county of Suffex, not only in respect of home-bred conspiracys, but foreign invasion also; since the French have laid an imbargo upon our ships. Be pleased to quicken mr. secretary Thurlow in dispatching the militia of Suffex; for if we have our militia to forme, and our soldiers to raise, when there is either an insurrection, or an invasion, or both, and must send as far as London for orders, when the enemy is at our gates, we are certainly lost. Portsmouth will be distressed, London endangered, the nation quickly enslaved and ruined. We have abundance of cavileers galantly mounted and appointed. Wee know where armes lay ready, but we have men enough, that are faithfull and valiant, if they were but encouraged and directed to gett into the same posture of defence, in which, by the providence of God you are settled in the great city. We need add noe more, but that we are cordially the city of London's servants, and yours,

Chichester, March 30, 1655.

FRANCIS CHEYNETT.
RICHARD BOUGHTON.
RICHARD MANNING.

The superscription,

*For our honoured friend, col. Robert Tichborne,
at his house in Silver-street.*

Mr. Edward Winslow to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

ABOUT twelve daies since I wrote to you by capt. Collens, wherein I gave you a large account of our proceedings in this island of the Barbados; how that by God's blessing we attained our passage in 5 weekes, made the 2500 men we landed 6000; and because our stores for the army are not as yet come up close, we should lose the drie season, and my lord's honor suffer thereby, have scabred up so many arms, as to make 1500, we hither brought, 6000, or neer thereabout: that we rayfed two small troopes of horse upon the island; and gotten such and so many other stores, as we are to sett saile this evening from the place: we thought to have gone the 24th instant, but could not attaine thereunto. Since which time came in capt. Haffield of London, and tells us of the Great Charity, that she was at sea with him; but saies, that she with many others in company were forced back by the fowle weather. This gentleman was above two moneths from Falmouth hither, and tells us, our store-ships were in the Downes, with a safe convoy, and beleeves they will be heer speedily; but truly, sir, we are so weary of wayting, and the season so neer spent, as we are resolved to cast ourselves into the arms of Almighty God, whose providence we trust will be ever for good, and will owne us as instruments in his right hand, to execute his determined vengeance upon that tyrannous, idolatrous, and bloody nation, that hath inflicted so many cruelties upon the nations of the earth, in their distressed members, and not the least upon ours. We have agreed to order the Great Charity to stay heer till our stores come up, and then to convey them to us. The general hath settled the militia of the island, and given commission to fowr regiments of horse and 4 of foote, and made the governor his lieutenant generall, and coll. Collison major generall of this island.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxxvi.
p. 107.

I hope it will conduce to the publick weale of the place. We have made bold to refer our commissioners to make use of their excise office, whereof the governor had a 3d, which 3d we still leave him to possesse; but whereas they call upon their articles, I tell them, they have broken that article: for whereas they were to pay the publick debts of the island therewith, they have received all those two yeares profits past, and we none at all, and now we shall reape the cropp of this 3d yeare, but with a greate deale of indignation to many. We aske them how long his highnes shall waite their pleasure to receive his royalties. We have such a body of busines to goe thorough this day, that I feare I shall not be able to write over my letter anew. If it so fall out, I had rather send you a blotted paper then a note, and write amongst a crowd of people, as I do here, than not to write at all: and I trust your honor will bury it amongst the rest of my infirmities, which is the earnest desire of,

Right honourable, your most humble servant,

Barbados, March 30, 1655.

EDM. WINSLOW.

I humbly entreate your honor to get a dispatch to capt. Paris and capt. Turner's busines.

The mayor of Dover, &c. to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

WE have received your commands of the 27th of this instant concerning mr. Francis Read, and shall observe the same with the first conveniencie.

Vol. xxiv.
p. 508.

We have inclosed sent the examination of Andreas Janson Grove, of whose quality, busines, &c. you will understand. We thought good also upon his request to send him up, we conceive the accompt given by him to be so shallow; found him a man pretending at first, that he could speake noe English, as also of a loose swearing tongue, that we thought good to give you this trouble about him; which is all at present from,

Dover, March 30, 1655.

Sir, your humble servants,

HAL. TATNELL, mayor.
WILLIAM CULLEN.
THOMAS WILSON.
JOHN PRICE.

The examination of Margaret Cheney, servant to mr. Edward Kynaston of Oakley, taken before me Humphry Mackworth, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the county of Salop, upon oath at Shrewsbury, being this 30th of March 1655.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxiv.
P. 509.

BEING demanded, whether fir William Neale was at her master's house, she saith, that she doth remember, that fir William Neale was there within less than a week before mr. Kynaston was sent for into Shrewsbury; but exactly what day, or whether he had one man or two men, or whether one of them might be a trumpeter or no, she knoweth not. Being demanded, whether she heard any thing of a rising or plot, she saith, that she heard not any thing of it, or what business fir William Neale had, further than by way of visit. And further saith not.

MARGARET [] CHENEY
her mark.

Examination of William Wannerton.

March 30, 1655.

Vol. xxiv.
P. 510.

William Wannerton examined saith, that being at Salisbury, upon the 12th day of March, he there saw Sherrington Talbot, esq; coming into the town with fir Joseph Wagstaffe, who was then commander in chief of a party that did declare themselves to be for the king; and that the said Talbot did give this informant threatening words, as fearing that he would discover him. He saith, that Talbot was not in the body, but coming after into the town, upon the very heels of the party.

By me, WILLIAM WANNERTON.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 472.

I Writ you last nyht more at large. This morning arryved a bark from Tunis in 6 dayes, gives newes, that general Blak was departed thence two dayes befor; but whither was not known. Som say for Tripoly, but I rather beleiv he is gon for som place of Cristendom, in regard he was in want of bread. It seems the dy or king of Tunis would com to no agreement, nor giv no manner of satisfaction for the injurys don our nation, but rather incenct and increast 'um by telling or sending the general word, if he would fyht, he should send his men ashore, and they wer redy for 'um. By what I understand from others, and by discourse with this bark, for letters from the fleet I have non) the general intends to send the consul of Tunis (a discreet gentleman, one mr. Browne nowe aboard his fleete) with a frigate for Constantinople, to lament to the great Turk of the dy, which may hapily mak them repent theyr insolent behaviour; for what els was it, to shoot at our skifs going a shore, as is reported? 5000 Turkes keepe al that great country in subjection. This is what occurs. The fleet's want of bread makes me believ they ar gon ether for Naples, Trapania, or Callari. I am,

Leghorn, April 10, 1655.

Right honourable,

your most humble servant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

The 8 current was made a new pope, cardinal Ghiti, of Siena, about 58 yeares ould.

Monfieur Minard to Bordeaux, the French embassador in England.

MY LORD,

Vol. xxiv.
P. 471.

IT is a week ago since your father went to take the air at Ruell, where he is at present. I went thither on wednesday last with your letters of the 1st of this month, where-with he remained very well satisfied, and in great impatience to know the consequence; but through misfortune the English post is not yet arrived. He sent me presently with your letter

letter for his eminence to Bois de Vincennes, where I could not speak with his eminence myself, by reason that the queen was newly arrived there; so that I was fain to deliver them to the captain of the guard. By the next your lordship may expect an answer. It will be this week first before his eminence doth return to this city. A. D. 1655.

Cardinal Mazarin to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

MY LORD,

I SEE by your last letter, which is of the first of this month, that they do still dally with you in the place where you are, with the same artifices, which they have used for a long while together, framing continually new difficulties, having no mind to conclude. Some days since they would write nothing of the most essential articles of the whole treaty, although they do confess the same to be just: now you write me word, that they are willing to add to it the word *presentment*, which would render it uselefs, and if one may say so, ridiculous; and the most that I find in it is, that they say, that it is you that have proposed unto them for expedients the most part of the things, which have been, and which are in contest between them and us; and that when they have accepted of them, they did admire that you would not agree unto them the next day. And in truth, they have some reason to complain of that, but that is none of our fault; on the contrary, if you had kept yourself firm and constant, to what we writ you from hence, either the business had been finished ere now, or else you had been returned back into this kingdom long since, whereby we had received less prejudice than by the delay, which hath been used in the negotiation, without concluding any thing. I am sorry to see, that we cannot doubt of their ill intention, by the care which they take to leave some tail in the treaty, which will give them an opportunity to assist our enemies, and to do us harm, when they shall think fit, with some likelihood of justice, that the same was permitted to them by the treaty. V. xxv. p. 1:

In short, there is no better witness than yourself of what we have suffered hitherto for want of concluding a good accommodation, and to infuse this into the mind of the lord protector, that we do act sincerely. I do again reply unto you, and so you signify unto him, that if so be the article that is in contest (besides that there is not an example of the like dispute in any treaty that was ever made) were not the fundamental point of the whole treaty, I had, and still would employ my whole credit with his majesty to depart from it, in the conjuncture of all those rumours and reports, which have passed in England, to the end, that it may serve to declare more and more to the protector the desire, which we have here to live with him in a perfect amity, and that we are not to be persuaded to be interested in all those attempts, which are made to weaken his authority.

I desire you only, whether that you conclude, or whether that you return, to take an occasion to declare to them, that we would never hearken here, directly or indirectly, to any propositions of commotions in England. This I believe the lord protector will do us so much right as to give credit unto, since we never meddled nor engaged in any thing to his prejudice hitherto.

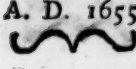
As for monsieur de Villeré, the king is willing to grant him a pass to return into Italy, without residing in his kingdom; this is all he can do at present.

At Bois de Vincennes, the 10th of April 1655.

Major general Boteler to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

NOTWITHSTANDING that information I had against sir Seymour Pile (a copy whereof I sent you by the last post) and the confidence of the prisoner to witness the same to his face, yet I thinke it will prove utterly false. For I have examined severall credible persons that do affirme, and are ready to make oath, that sir Seymour was in bedd at that very howre, and stirred not out of the house further then to church all the day before. Also I have sent to the sheriff to examine those prisoners now in Sarum, that my prisoner saies were at the rendezvous with sir Seymour; and they deny that they saw him, or heard of his being there: and I now feare the ground of my information was hopes of liberty to the informant thereupon; yet I have taken very good bayle for sir Seymour his forthcoming. I writt to you a week since, to know, if you might have any thing against one collonel Bennett (formerly of the king's party) whom I secured upon suspicion, and would willingly let goe free, if I knew his highness's pleasure therein. I have now sent

A. D. 1655.  sent me an inventory of mr. Lucas his personall estate, which I gott two honest men of the towne to take with an officer of myne. I shall send it up to you some time by a messenger, it being of too great a bulke for a letter. I have employed two very honest men to go up and downe the countrey, and bespeake such as may be fit matter for jurors at Sarum; and monday and tuesday severall honest gentlemen will be with the sheriffe and myselfe at Sarum, to direct and correct us therein; and, indeed, his facilitie, and my unacquaintance with the countrey, made me thinke of this course. The next time you shall write any commands to me, you may please to direct them to me at Salisbury, where, and where-foever else I shall be, I am,

Marlburgh, 31 March, 1655,
10 at night.

Sir, your very faithfull servant,

W. BOTELER.

Pray, sir, present my humble service to sir Gilbert and mr. Strickland.

William Sheldrake to *secretary* Thurloe.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

Vol. xxiv.
p. [205.]

SINCE my last, I have visited some freinds at Norwich and elsewhere, and finde, that malignants are exceedingly exasperated every where, and my L. P. whoe, while their hopefull parliament fate was very good with them, is now much undervalued by them; and some are not backward to talke broadly of my lord; insoemuch, that as I heare two men are committed for words against my lord. What the words, or how considerable the men are, I cannot tell. The godly party are generally well satisfyd, and the 5th monarchy men alsoe, till the imprisonment of Harrison and Rich, at which they seeme to be much amazed, and many alsoe good men not of their judgement wonder at it, that (as they say) my lord should imprison such men without a cause. But the misery is, that all will be statesmen, and meddle to judge at such a distance, whether they know the truth or circumstances of any thinge or noe; and as I have had occasion to discourse with any of them, I finde they are as easily taken off from their censures as may be.

How our parliament men behave themselves at home, I cannot tell; but they would not be drawne to act publicly about the assessments by any meanes, but openly declined it; which, if all the rest had done, might have brought a great inconvenience upon us.

The commissioners for assessments, when they mett about it, (whether it was suggested by any of our parliament men, or noe, I know not) were ready to putt it to vote, whether they should act or noe; but they resolved to act, and then, whether their warrants should be to desire or require; and the reason was this, because it was only an order of my lord's and the counsell, and noe ordinance; for said some, my lord will not meddle with the legislative power himselfe, but put it upon us, and wee must by action establish it a lawe, and soe may be sued, and may prove a ship-mony-cause. But they overcame it, and are in a readyness and posture of peaceable action; and here is amongst us noe other account, but quietly to pay it. Here is much enquiry about the militia, and many wonder, why it goes not on; for wee seeme soe naked and unfitt, upon occasion, to doe any service. Here is much speakinge about sir John Hubbart's being of the counsell, &c. There was in the list for our county, captaine Steward put in for the foot; but he desires to be in the horse; and indeed I beleive he will doe rather better service for the horse. Major general Skippon knows the man, and his usefullness. My most humble service presented, I rest,

Your honour's most obliged,

WILLIAM SHELDRAKE.

Brienne, to Bordeaux, the French *embassador* in England.

MY LORD,

Vol. xxiv.
p. 479.

BY the copy of the order, which was sent to the duke of Vendome, you will see how the officers of the admiralty did exceed that, which was sent them first for the shutting of the ports of this kingdom; in pursuance whereof they had proceeded to the seizure of foreign ships, namely, of those of the English, as if it had been to have counterpoised the prizes, which have been taken from the French in the place; whereas his majesty's intention did extend no farther, than to hinder a great number of his subjects from sheltering themselves aboard of strangers ships, to avoid the service which his majesty

majesty doth desire from them. By this order you will see clearly, that we have no intention to make any breach. This you are to make use of, in the place where you are, to finish that which you have begun, if it be possible to be done. I do expect with impatience to hear from you. Quesnoy hath been relieved. The Spaniards, with the loss of their reputation, are retreated out of the territories of the duke of Modena; and it is to be believed, that that which the king told so handsomely and firmly to the lords of the parliament, will cause their assemblies to cease; which they began under pretence to examine the edicts, though it be feared they treated of other affairs. This was a master piece, and I hope it will take the effect, which is expected; at least the wisest and greatest part of the officers of the campaign do declare, that men ought to obey it. We have just now received advice, that Blake hath order to join with the fleet of Spain. I pray inform yourself, and advise us of it.

A. D. 1655.

A letter of information to major general Lambert.

MY LORD,

Y^Esterday I gave your lordship an account of ten gentlemen, who travelled southward, Vol. xxiv. all well mounted and armed. Since then I tooke my horse, and scouted about the P. 511. country, to finde out the younge tinker, who gave my friend notice of it. Late last night I found him; he is a subtil and crafty younge man, at times pretending much simplicity, but one of a notable dexterity in all sorts of games, as dice, &c. and knavery. He hath frequented all the gentlemen's houses westward from hence; and I perceive hath run with them on huntinge, and hath been kindly received into their houses; and there hath of late fixed their armes for them, and hath knowne of their late meetings, as he broadly hinted unto me before Michael Dawson and his wife. He gave me a distinct account of several of those gentlemen. He particularly nominated Ramsden of Langleyhall, sir John Key, major Beaumont of Whitleyhall, sir John Armitage of Kirleas-newhall, at whose house they all were wednesday evening. There were two or three Lancashire gentlemen, which the informant hath seene at sir John Key's, and are his kinsmen. There were also three with vizards upon their faces; one he fully described, having seen his face bare, the wind blowing off his hood; he was very tall, of a black visage, full lipped, a longe arme, carrying one sword drawne in his hand, and another hanging by his side; he had many side pistolls about him, and under his coate privy armes; for drawing forth one pistoll, he heard it jarre and rattle upon the armour. They enquired for Stumpe-crosse and (having made diligent search) they did not call at Battlehall, but went further; it's probable to a house of Ramsden's, not farre from Ferry-briggs. 'Tis plain, our westerne gentlemen, and those of Lancashire, were a guard to those three with vizards. Jack, said sir John Key to the tinker, keep a good tongue in your head; and he with others gave him 6 or 7 shillings; and indeed, had not the tinker gott a little ale, he would not have opened his budgett soe freely. I perceive he cannot easily be compelled to any informations. I did promise to write to col. Lilburne for him, that he might be a trooper, which he kindly embraced, and hath promised this day to goe towards him, and I have given the col. his further information; and alsoe that the tinker overheard one of them saying to sir John Armitage, we will be at the house back againe next tuesday. He further told me, that as any of the knights came by him, who had the drawn sword, they putt off their hatts, and did him honour ('twas the tinker's owne expression.) They keepe noe high way, they are exceeding well mounted, and ride in the dead of the night. I have no more at present. What I can further gather shall be speedily sent to your lordship by,

My lord, your lordship's most faithfull servant,

Batley, March the last, 1655.

*For the right honorable my lord Lambert, at
his lodgings at Whitehall, London.*

March 31, 1655.

The examination of Thomas Sacheverell, of Baliscott in the county of Oxford, gentleman, taken before me major Richard Creed, the day and year above-written.

S^AITH, that about the 10th of February last past, one mr. Beeston, of New-College in Oxford, did send a letter to the said Sacheverell, desiring that he would meet him at Great-Tue; and there did desire the said Sacheverell to take into his house to sojourn one, that he said his name was Standley, a Kentish man, being some-
Vol. III. 4 P what

A. D. 1655. what tall, and of a spare visage, and of a brown hair, and the said gentleman did also name himself Standley, and went by that name; and the said gentleman did goe some time to Banbury and elsewhere. He did meet at Banbury mr. Walker, a captain formerly on the king's side, and sir Thomas Chamberlayne was in the same roome with the said captain, and two others. The said Standley did send out one of his servants several times into Hampshire, as this examine conceived, and at the return of the said servant, he brought word of the rising at Salisbury, and that the affize was over at Winchester, at which the said Standley was very merry. All the time that he continued at the said Sacheverell's house, he was very full of money, and very generous. And Sacheverell saith further, that three days after he heard of the rising at Salisbury, he went towards Hampshire, and staid by the way at mrs. Oldife's at Whitford, and so went forward. At the time of the said Standley's being at the house of the said Sacheverell, major Moore and Martin Justin came to the said Standley, and were in company with him, both having been of the King's army formerly. At the going away of the said Standley, he changed his name, and said, he was the son of esq. Wallop in Hampshire; but the said Beeston said, that he was the son and heir of the said esq. Wallop; which Beeston did keep the said esquire's son company, for the most part, whilst he lay at the house of the said Sacheverell. And he saith, that the said esquire's son was given to ranting and drinking sometimes. And further saith, that he had a case of horse pistols with holsters, that he did see; and had two servants to attend him, and four horses; and mr. Beeston had two horses.

Attested to be true by me

In the presence of

ANDREW RUSSEL.
CHARLES ARTHUR.
ROBERT BROMNELL.

THOMAS SACHEVERELL.

The second examination of mr. John Saintloe, taken March 31, 1655. [By secretary Thurloe.]

Vol. xxiv.
P. 513.

THAT the chaplain of the marquis of Hertford had been oftentimes at mr. Penruddock's of late, and mr. Penruddock told him, that he had had much correspondence with him about the rising; and that his chaplain was to be with him upon the saturday night before the rising, and by him was to learn from the marquis of Hertford, what strength he would bring, and how the business was to be managed. And saith, that the lord Winchelsea was to rise in Kent, and to keep Rochester, and after to seize upon Colchester, where a great party was to rise with him. And this he said the marquis of Hertford had sent him notice of.

That there was a great meeting at Salisbury, either at the lady Phillips her house, or at the King's-arms, where was the same mr. Penruddock, mr. Reeves, mr. Grove, mr. Mompeffon, mr. Greene junior, of Meere in Wilts, and some others, concerning the general rising. And there they had directions what to do from the lady Phillips, who came from London a little before, and had often been in France and other parts beyond the seas with the queen. This was told him by mr. Penruddock. And said, that the day for the general rising was agreed on there.

He saith, that he was told by mr. Penruddock, that one captain Twyne, who lives near Blandford, was engaged; and also captain Kirles, of Woodcuts in Dorsetshire; as also mr. Robert Freake, of Upway in Dorsetshire.

Informations against sir Henry Berkeley of Yerlington, William Vigar, the rich usurer of Yerlington, and Francis Swanton, attorney of Wintanton, and steward to the said sir Henry Berkeley, touching the late insurrection.

Vol. xxiv.
P. 416.

1. SIR Henry Berkeley living 25 miles from Salisbury, upon that very monday that the judges were surpris'd by the late rebels, on that very monday about eleven of the clock at night, had one that came riding post to his house at Yerlington, where he was such a stranger to the house, that being before the door, he did not know it, but asked John Bowen then of Yerlington, which was sir Henry Berkeley's house; and when he had told him it was just before him, yet he was such a stranger, that he knew not before he asked the said John Bowen, which was the way unto the house. If one Dugdale, mr. Dugdale's son of Evercruch, Morris Berkeley, son to the said Henry, Barnard, now of South Cadbury, and the late ejected incumbent in the rectory of Erlington, who was ejected

ejected for being in arms for the late king, together with every party, whom they should affirm the said man to be, who then came riding post, were examined apart, either they would unanimously conclude the man to come at that time of the night from the rebels; or by their difference and disagreement in their relations, it would appear, that this messenger came to him from the rebels. A. D. 1655.

2. The said sir Henry Berkley told William Ponter of Erlington, yeoman, which William had formerly spoke against the said sir Henry's burying of his son Harry, a captain unto the late king, with his sword upon his hearse, captain-wise, late at night, that the said William Ponter was an old rogue, and had matched in the family of a company of round-headed rogues; but he hoped now the times would turn, and then he would make him rue for it. This he spake not long before the insurrection.

3. The said sir Henry Berkley did shelter and obscure continually at his house, and doth yet, one Dugdale, the son of one doctor Dugdale, of Evercruch, against whom he knew warrants to be issued forth from my lord chief justice Rolls, to apprehend him on suspicion for murdering of a parliament trooper at Compton in Somersetshire, who was there murdered barbarously in the night; and the said Dugdale, sheltered by the said sir Henry, never could be apprehended; and that blood yet remains unrevenged.

Informations against William Vigar, the rich usurer of Yerlington.

1. **T**HE said William having a musket taken from him, being an old cavalier, by John Andrews of Yerlington, according to his order from captain Hilliard, at the time when the Scots were going to Worcester, the said William, a little before the insurrection brake forth, came to John Andrews, saying, I will now have my musket again; the time is now come, that I will make thee bring my musket again: a little before the rising.

2. The said William Vigar, a little before the insurrection, when his highness forbade all cudgel-playing, &c. to inhibit concourse of people, caused a stage to be erected in Yerlington for cudgel-playing; which when John Andrews, with the tything man, by virtue of a warrant from a justice of the peace, had pulled down, the said William caused to be set up again, and said, where is he, I say he, that came with the tything-man to pull down the stage: he had best be quiet, or I will stick close to him.

3. The said William Vigar about the same time said to John Andrews, come, come, we must have a government. To whom the said John Andrews replied, why, we have a government, have we not? To whom the said William, turning him about scornfully, cried, hum! and so went away.

4. The said William Vigar was, a little before the insurrection, seen oft in Surry with one William Strode of Wintanton, who was taken in actual rebellion with the rebels, and was imprisoned.

Informations against Francis Swanton.

1. **A** Little before the insurrection, he threatened mr. Dorington, rector of Yerlington, who was put in by the committee of Somerset and the committee of plundered ministers, that he would ere long make him run the country.

2. His wife, a little before the late insurrection, gave out words implying, that mr. Dorington should be starved.

3. The said Swanton, a little before the late insurrection, was oft seen in great Surry, with one William Strode of Wintanton, who was actually found in the last insurrection, and for that cast into Exeter goal.

4. Swanton, and Berkeley, and Rydout, William Vigar's son-in-law, and one Robert Parry, have got mr. Dorington's servant, who was a chief witness, to run away; and he hath been seen with many of them. This argues, they have done that which they fear should come to light.

5. These articles have been hitherto obstructed in their passage; and the men, hearing of it, grow insolent; but were they taken up, we believe others, that are of the godly party, who are now daunted because they think it will be vain to speak, will speak the fulness of their knowledge.

JOHN DORINGTON, rector of Yerlington.

The mark [A] of JOHN ANDREWS.

WILLIAM PONTER.

The protector's letter to baron Thorpe and serjeant Glyn.

Right trusty and right well beloved, we greet you well;

Vol. xxxvi.
p. 425.
In the hand
writing of se-
cretary Thur-
loe.

WHereas upon occasion of the late insurrection and rebellion in several parts of this nation (which through the blessing of God is suppressed) we find it necessary to advise with you concerning some proceedings to be had against the persons engaged therein; you are therefore, as soon as you have made an end of the circuit, to repair up hither with all convenient speed; wherein we would not have you fail, in respect our service is very much concerned therein.

To our right trusty and right well beloved mr. baron Thorpe, one of the barons of our exchequer, and serjeant Glyn, of the judges of the assize for the counties of Berks, Oxford, &c.

To his highness Oliver, lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, &c.

The humble petition of Richard Green, of the Middle-Temple, gent.

Sheweth,

Vol. xxxvi.
p. 426.

THAT at Sarum, your petitioner being seduced into the late unhappy engagement against the publique peace of your highness government of this commonwealth, but being truly sensible of the evil of such proceedings, withdrew himselfe from the party of Sherborne, upon monday night, and voluntarily delivered himselfe a prisoner to major Hansey, submitting to your highness mercy for this your petitioner's first offence.

The premisses considered, your petitioner humbly prayeth, that your highness favour and mercy may be extended, to pardon the offence of your petitioner, whose hopes, that God will enable him for the future, soe to behave himselfe, as to wipe of the memory of his transgression, by your petitioner's faithfull endeavours to serve your highness in the government of this commonwealth.

And your petitioner shall pray, &c.

RICHARD GREENE.

The state of Genoa to the protector.

SERENISSIME DOMINE,

Vol. xxv.
p. 21.

QUOD de mittendâ in Mediterraneum classe, nosque de eâ certiores reddendo cepit consilium celsitudo vestra, illud sanè nobis quam maximè gratum atque jucundum accidit: hoc enim pacto serenissimæ istius, ac nostræ insimul reipublicæ commeantium populorum navigationi ociùs consultum fore confidimus, magnamque ad veteres necessitudines accessionem attulisse fatemur novam hanc erga nos benevolentiae significationem; qua de re meritis ac debitas gratias agimus celsitudini vestræ, cui mutuam voluntatem nostram exhibentes ex animo pollicemur, nullam nos unquam prætermisso opportunitatem, quâ generali ejusdem classis dignissimo præfecto Roberto Blake in iis, quæ ad sui commodum et voluptatem ex qualibet hujus dominii parte provenire poterunt presto esse, propensionemque, quâ Anglicam nationem semper complexi sumus, quâque ejus naves intra ditionis nostræ portus peramanter excipimus, magis magisque confirmare valeamus, D. O. M. deprecantes, ut cuncta ad voluntatem celsitudinis vestræ feliciter fluere non dedignentur.

Datas Genuæ, die 11 Aprilis 1655. [N. S.]

Celsitudinis vestræ addictissimi,

J. Caspar Franconius.

Dux et gubernatores reipublicæ Genuensis.

Horatius Dulmetanus.

*Olivario protettori reipublicæ Angliæ,
Scotiæ, & Hiberniæ.*

Capt. Whitthorn to secretary Thurloe.

Gainborough Frigott, April 1, 1655. Riding in Humber.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

According to orders received from vice-admiral Lawson, of the 6th of March last, to ply between Flamborough-head and Yarmouth, for the apprehending of all such persons, who might be suspected as enemies to this present government; in reference to the said orders, on the 25th of the last month, I meeting with a Scotch barke, wherein finding three passengers, Scots, bound (as pretended) for Leith, who not giving a satisfactory account of their departure this land, thought it convenient to detain them, and deliver them into the custody of those, who might bring them to a farther examination; and accordingly this day have sent them to the governour of Hull, there to be secured or releifed, as cause shall be found. The inclosed declares their names and pretences of their going. I should not have detained them soe long on board, but that the wind blowing hard at east, forced us to keepe sea, and at present wanting water, thought noe place fitter than Humber. The strict orders, that lately came to my view at Burlington, insites mee to have the more care in apprehending, especially such, who have not clear passes since the late insurrection. Having not else at present, but my faithfull service presented to your honors, desiring the lord to protect you against all such as are conspiritors against him and this commonwealth, take leave, and subscribe myself

Your honor's most trusty and humble servant,

WILL. WHITTHORN.

Inclosed in the preceding.

The names of such persons as were apprehended in a bark called the John of Leith, whereof John Browne master.

March 25, 1655.

Alexander Taudrick, aged 23 years, of a light brown hair, hanging, full fixed, somewhat tall, and slender, and servant to the earl of Dalhousie, pretends, that he was sent by his lady to the said earl, he being upon composition for his estate, and hath a passe from general Monck, dated the 14th of September last. He hath two books, whereof one is directed to a member of the house, to maintain episcopacy; the other directed to the lord protector and his council, instructing them how to govern by way of derision, wherein he excites all factions whatsoever to a general insurrection, and disturbance of this present government.

William Cauterwood, aged 25, of a dark-brown long hair, middle stature, slender, and of a good complexion, having no pass, but alledged to be a surgeon and an apothecary, having for four years past practised in London; and lay at one mr. Giddings, a barber, at Paul's-chain.

James Findle, aged 21, of a dark, short, brown hair, curled, somewhat tall, and slender, thin faced, well coloured, a pretended merchant, having a pass from one capt. Sutton, of St. Andrew's, of the 6th of February last, but hath no commodities in the said bark; his pass was granted for himself and servant, but hath no servant with him.

These pretend to be examined by one mr. John Cumption, a searcher of the block-house at Tilbury, and were cleared, as they say, but have nothing to shew for it; and hearing of a late defeat given to the adverse party, made the greater jealousy, that they might be fled from them.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to his father.

MY LORD,

YOU will have seen, by my foregoing letters, the new obstacle that hath happened to my negotiation. It is not yet taken away, notwithstanding that I have declared and assured my commissioners, that I had no advice of a general seisure, and that the letters bearing date the 3d of this month do only speak of an order given by monsieur de Vendosme, which was only executed at Havre, and whereof the other cities had sent complaints about it to the court; and if the letters had arrived here to day, they would have pacified the alarm, that was presently taken by the merchants here. In the mean

Vol. III.

4 Q

time

A. D. 1655.

Vol. xxv.

P. 13.

Vol. xxiv.

P. 432.

Vol. xxiv.

P. 473.

A. D. 1655. *W* time I have not failed to present the secretary of state and my commissioners, that they would let me know the last resolution of his highness. They do pay me with delays; and although I do speak of taking leave, by their discourse there doth appear a design to gain yet some further time, before they conclude; which I am as much grieved and vexed at, as those at court can be; and if they knew my inclinations, and the condition of my affairs, you would have no great trouble to persuade them, (unless I would steal away without taking leave, which I think not fit to do) there cannot be any thing added to the endeavours that are used by me to conclude or break. There is all likelihood of the first, and as I believe it is of more advantage to the king, than the other, I shall not scruple to extend my orders as much as the honour and interest of his majesty will bear it; that so my voyage may not be fruitless, and that I may discharge myself of the ill will, which some of my superiors might bear unto me for not concluding, although at present they do declare they do not much value it. Yet I cannot deny, that in effect, after so many delays, they have cause to be angry at the proceedings of this government. I am very much engaged to the earl of Brienne, for taking upon him to justify my conduct; and to condemn the impatience of another, but without diminishing any thing of the acknowledgment, which his good offices do oblige me to have. I can say, that he cannot without injustice see me charged with reproaches, and not defend me. I hope here will not be many letters more to write to the court, for I do expect a sudden end of my treaty; and a good end will make amends for all delays. I do not write to the court by this ordinary, for I have nothing to write to them, but the continuation of the delay, which is used, till they are fully informed of the general seizure, which is expected by this post. I have always, when my commissioners have spoken to me about it, given them full assurance of the contrary; and at the same time protested to depart, if a speedy resolution were not given me; for which they took three days. I should think myself very happy, if I could be dispatched in fix.

Here is likewise no news of the affairs here, which are all in a quiet condition. Mr. de Cugnac is returned from Madrid to London, with letters to his highness, whom he hath already seen.

London, April 12, 1655. [N. S.]

Major Creed to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxv.
P. 37.

I Thought it my duty to present unto you, that Sherington Talbot, of Salop in the countie of Worcester, esq; is seized on by mee. His being at Salisbury he confesseth, but pretendeth business at the assizes. I have sent the deposition taken from him to your secretary Thurloe, and should bee glad to receive your highnes commands concerning him. I likewise seized the person of one Sacheverill, an Oxfordshire gentleman, for harbouring a suspicious person in his house, whose name at first by the name of Stanley, and afterwards by the name of Wallop. It is generally reported in the country to bee Charles Stuarde; he stay'd at this gentleman's house 'til the rising at Salisbury, and then went his way. I have also given the secretary a full account of this business. I have no more, but presume to subscribe myself,

My lord, your highnes most humble and faithfull servant,

Warwick, April 2, 1655.

RICH. CREED.

The same gentleman, whose name was Stanley, and Wallop, had severall meetings with the most notorious cavaliers in Oxfordshire, and usually in the night.

Middlesex *The information of Thomas Elwes, gent. taken upon oath, before William Robinson, esq; against Henry Simonds, on the second day of April, 1655.*

Vol. xxv.
P. 25.

T HIS informant saith, that about July or August last, the said Henry Simonds went out of this nation beyond the seas into Holland, as this informant believeth, and as the said Henry Simonds confessed to this informant. And this informant further saith, that the said Henry Simonds confessed unto him, that he the said Henry Simonds spoke with the Scottish king, meaning Charles Stuart, eldest son to the late king, when he was beyond sea; and that the said Scottish king would have knighted him the said Simonds

Simonds there; and that he the said Simonds was to have sir John Brownlow's house in Drury-lane, when the said Scottish king should come into England, for good service, which he the said Simonds either had done, or was to do for the said Scottish king. And this informant further saith, that he the said Simonds hath divers times drank healths to the said Scottish king, wishing him prosperity and success in England, and particularly upon the nine and twentieth day of March last, the said Simonds confessed to this informant, that he had been drinking the said Scottish king's health, and would have engaged this informant to go into the room and company in the said Simonds's house to do the like; but who the company were, with whom the said Simonds drank the said health, this informant knows not, only they were such as continued in the said Simonds's house (being a tavern) all day on thursday, and all night, and part of friday last. And this informant further saith, that the said Simonds's tavern is very much frequented with disorderly persons, who are of ill fame, and that they continue there very late at night, and sometimes 'till morning. This informant further saith, that upon the said 29th of March, he the said Simonds told this informant, that the said Scottish king had a great army up for him in the north of England; and now he the said Simonds should have sir John Brownlow's house, and old Sexton's money. And this informant further saith, that upon the Lord's day was three weeks, the said Simonds sent for him this informant to his house, and when this informant came thither, he found one Thomas Bradford, a bailiff under the sheriff of Middlesex, and one White, the said bailiff's follower, who were drinking in the said Simond's house; and after this informant came thither, four more persons, viz. Henry Lucas, another bailiff, and Ralph Anthony, and one Baker, being either bailiffs or bailiffs followers, came in thither, who sat drinking in the said Simonds's house all the sermon time in the forenoon; and also one mr. Guy, a coroner, was there drinking with them. And this informant further saith, that in the afternoon of the same day, at sermon time, all the said company met there again, and sat drinking; and that this informant paid, of the reckoning, three shillings in the morning, and four shillings in the afternoon. And this informant further saith, that it is an usual custom at mr. Simonds's house, to entertain company to drink on the Lord's day. And further saith not.

WILLIAM ROBINSON.

Signed by the said THOMAS ELWES.

The examination of Henry Simonds, taken on the same day.

WHO saith, that true it is, he this examine went into Holland about July last, Vol. xxv. but denieth, that he ever saw the Scottish king or any of his followers beyond P. 27. the seas, or that he the said Scottish king ever spoke to this examine, or promised any thing to him. This examine farther denieth, that he ever reported any such thing as is mentioned in mr. Elwes's information, either as to his knighting, to sir John Brownlow's house, or to mr. Sexton's money. This examine further denieth, that he ever drank the said Scottish king's health, or that he reported any thing of any army raised for the said Scottish king in the north; only this examine confesseth, that the company mentioned in mr. Elwes's information were in this examine's house, but they came there upon several occasions. And further saith not.

WILLIAM ROBINSON.

Signed by the said HENRY SIMONDS.

Mr. C. Henn to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

ON thewfday night the 20th of this instant March, I did cause fower suspicious persons Vol. xxv. to be apprehended, as being part of those that were in the late insurrection. There p. 29. examination did render them a great deale more suspicious, as will appeare to your highnes and your honorable council by these inclosed. I findeing of them soe suspicious, haveing not one word of truth from them upon the account they gave mee of the places of their abode in the North cuntry, for they be places that I know as well as I know the towne wheare I live, and know the gentry that live in the townes, and those that live all about them; they could give me no accounte of any persons but one, which was a colonel in the king's army; and I further findeing them soe various in their examinations, I committed them to custody to the constable to keep them safe, 'till he should receive orders from your highnes, your honorable council, or myself, for their enlargement. I had intended to have sent on wedneseday morning to your highnes, to have known your highnes's pleasure, what I should

A. D. 1655. *W*ould have done with them; but colonel Ingoldsbey sending of me word on tuesday night, that he would be at home on the wednesday, I thought good to stay and advise with him, which on wednesday night accordingly he came, and we did advise together, and we did conclude to send them on the morrow morning with a strong guard to your highness; for *two** of them did seem to be persons of great quality, for they had very rich cloathing in their portmanteaus, which might become persons of great quality to wear; but on wednesday night the constable did take the engagement of the innkeeper, where they lay, (because the innkeeper was loth to have them removed out of his house,) for the safe keeping of them till the morrow morning, he should come and deliver them up. But when the constable came in the morning, he found the innkeeper had let the two chief escape, and take all their rich apparel with them, and left their horses and their two men behind them; one of them is a poor countryman, which they took up to ride afore a portmanteau, and the other is a Frenchman, which I can get nothing out of; but truly, the innkeeper is a very untoward fellow, and will abuse all authority, so far as in him lies; for when I sent to apprehend these men as suspicious persons, being pursued by a countryman, which came and gave me intelligence, the innkeeper came to me in my own house, and told me, the constable and his guard should not fetch one man out of his house without a warrant. I thought good to give your highness an account of my proceedings concerning this business, hoping that your highness or your honorable council will be pleased to call this constable and innkeeper to an account for these persons, for I am perswaded it was either for affection or for a reward, that these two persons were let escape. Farther I desire to know your highness's pleasure, what I should do with this Frenchman. So haveing noe more at present, I subscribe mysele,

Aylebury, April 2,
1655.

Your highness's most humble servante and landlord,

C. HENN.

The examination of Jonas Cudworth, of Newcastle upon Tine, draper, taken the 2d day of April 1655.

Vol. xxv.
p. 42.

Mr. Shivil at
Newcastle.

Mr. Robert
Tempest lived
in the

Mr. Gaf-
coigne.

WHO saith, that in February he did hear a rumour, that there was a plot contrived to raise forces against his highness the lord protector and the present government, and that one major *Bridge, alias captain Bridge, was come over from beyond the seas, with commission for that intent, and that lodged for twenty days with mr. Ralph Dellavella, at his house Seaton Dellavella; that he was also engaged in the plot, as also his two kinsmen, mr. Robert Dellavella, and mr. William Dellavella, with one major Thomas Carneby; and that major Bridge, major Carneby, and mr. William Dellavella, had each of them 50l. sent from London towards their charges; and that mr. William Dellavella had gotten fifty horse in readines.*

That there was a design to surprize Newcastle, Tinmouth Castle, Berwick, and Carlisle; and that he, this examinee, was asked, if occasion were, whether he could not procure 5 or 6 men for his part, to come into Newcastle.

That a gentleman coming from Piersbridge, having had some discourse with young mr. *Thomas Witbam, of Cliff, in the bishopric of Durham, did hear that some gentlemen had drawn him in, and that he had got up 5 horse, which gentleman told mr. James Shaftoe, of Tanfield Leigh, that he had diswaded mr. Wytham from that design, and caused him to sell his horses; and likewise, that mr. Byerley junior in the bishoprick near Tees, had disbursed 200l. for horses for that service; and that the rendezvous for the north were to be upon Bockingfield-moor, Spenny-moor, and Gatherley-moor; and the reason they did not advance was, the lord Thomas Fairfax was to be general, and the lord Willoughby lieutenant general; and that some business at London obstructed the lord Willoughby his coming down to York; but so soon as he came, all the north would rise.*

Quære Mr. JAMES SHAFTOE.

Commissary general Reynolds to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxv.
p. 43.

I Received his highness's commands for the sending mr. Armestrong and mr. Kynaston to London, and accordingly they are conveyed by major Packer's troope by the way of Oxford, as neere as the post rode, and more convenient. I have enclosed a deposition against Kynaston, which, with his owne confession, will be sufficient prooffe. He hath since affirmed, that he thought sir Thomas Harris was in armes; otherwise he would not have

* They were lord Rochester and Nicholas Armorer, Clarend., III. 436.

have mentioned him in his confession. The examination of Jones will acquaint you with the name of an agent from the late king of Scots, about whom I have sent into Cheshire; but if he be gone northward, as is supposed, I hope colonel Lilborne may light upon him, if you be pleased to send notice unto him. I have endeavoured allwayes for the finding out this whole designe in these parts, yet cannot get such a light therein, as I desire, but I beleive we have so clear testimonyes, that many may be made examples by law (if his highnes be pleased to appoint a way for their triall.) Besides these two, I had given order for the laying an obstinate, and wicked, blasphemous fellow, one Eyton, in irons, who, as I was informed, and as Kynafton affirms in his confession, knew the whole busines; but he is escaped this night with one bolt onely upon him. I shall be unservicable heere, if you be not pleased to send a commission for a court of warre; and greater inconveniencies will follow. I humbly leave it to you, who made so souldier-like a motion, when I came away, for increasing the army with best safety, speede, and conveniency, that I am bold to appeale unto you in this busines as a judge. I have presumed to write unto his highnes concerning the garrison, and do account it my duty to mind you, that there may be order given for the safety thereof, as I have proposed. I presume to desire your answer to my last, and remaine, sir,

Your obliged faithfull servant,

Salop, April 2, 1655.

J. REYNOLDS.

Mr. Robert Werden to Thomas Scott, esq;

HONOURABLE SIR,

AT the first noyse of these late intended risings and seazinge of gentlemen and their Vol. xxv. horses, I did (by the advice of an officer of this place) render my self (to avoyde P. 47. beinge troubled by stranger or marchinge troopes) to the commissioners appoynted by the protector for the militia of this country; who were pleased (havige nothing to laye to my charge) to give mee this inclosed protection and passe. Notwithstandinge which, a troope belonginge to generall Lambert, under the command of capt. Spillman, hathe made mee a prisoner, and taken all my horses; yet professes he hathe nothing to saye against mee, more than that I am a suspected person. I tender him his choyse of any security in this towne, to be a true prisoner to my one house, which will not serve, but I am kept in an inne, at the charge of soldiers for a garde, and my horses and swords, which are all the armes I have (except two birdinge pieces, which they have likewise taken) kept from mee. Sir, you knowe mee better then any Englishman does; but that you maye a little better, I solemnly (upon the faythe of a Christian) not onely professe a disaprovment, but an absolute ignorance, of any designe or plott, that was afoote. To you I protest this, in the presence of Almighty God; yet shall not move you to the procurement of my perfect liberty, but to send mee an order from the protector, that I maye upon my paroll (or if that will not be taken) upon givinge security here to do it, render myselfe there to him, to answer any accusation that shall come against mee. Sir, I thinke this a very reasonable petition, and as reasonable, that (till I appeare guilty) my horses and goods be, by the same command that fetches mee thither, restored to mee. My horses I shall bringe under mee, to tender with my selfe, to be disposed as I shall appear guilty, or not; the latter of the too I am sure, upon tryall, to be found, and have some confidence, that when I am upon that place, I shall be able to doe you some more service. If I have ever done any, let it be considered in the gaininge of this suite I nowe make, the expedition of which I presse for nothinge more then to be eased of that needles expence is by this occasion drawn upon,

Sir, your moste faithfull humble servant,

Chester, April 3, 1655.

ROBERT WERDEN.

Praye please to give mee some directions, how to addressse to you, for I am forced to make use of my good friend mr. Walley, to conveye this to you.

The superscription,

*To my ever truly honour'd Thomas Scott, esq;
at his house in Lambeth, or at mr. Roe's,
at the backe of the Bull-head taverne, by
Charinge-Crosse, London.*

County of Chester.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxiv.
P. 434.

THESE are to certify all whom this may concern, that Robert Werden, of Burton, in the county of Chester, esq; came before us, whose names are subscribed, commissioners of the militia for the county of Chester, and voluntarily entered into recognizance, to the use of his highness the lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging, in the sum of one thousand pounds, not to act any thing prejudicial to the present government, or to be privy or consenting thereunto, and to be with his horses and arms, in a schedule delivered unto us, forth-coming, when required. These are therefore to desire all whom these may concern, to suffer the said Robert Werden to pass with his servants and horses peaceably and quietly upon their lawful occasions, without let or molestation. Given under our hands at Norwich, the 26th day of March, 1655.

Henry Brooke.
Peter Dutton.
Thomas Marbury.
Peter Brooke.
Edward Hyde.

J. Bruen.
John Bruen.
Thomas Croxton.
Stephen Bradshaw.

The deputy, assistants, and fellowship of merchants adventurers of England, residing at Hamburg, to the governor and assistants of the company of merchant adventurers trading to Hamburg.

RIGHT WORSHIPFUL SIR AND SIRs,

Vol. xxv.
P. 55.

Yesterday, at a general court and ample convention, we heard your worship's letter of the 9th of March past, published unto us, the contents whereof led us to such a brotherly compliance with your counsells, that laying aside all farther disputes, we presently proceeded to the settlement of our government, which we effected orderly and unanimously, with a general satisfaction. Being a court, it gave occasion for the publication of several former letters from your worships, according to your direction; amongst the rest your letter of the 22d of December, which you are pleased to refer unto your forementioned of the 9th of March, was read unto us, and had its due respect.

The government being thus peaceably settled, we will suppose it matter enough for our first advice, as being a fair introduction of our wonted orderly correspondence, so long and so unhappily interrupted. Our next shall give your worships an account of such other particulars, as your letters and the publick concernments of the fellowship shall require from us. So committing you to the protection of the Almighty, we rest,

Hamb. Aprilis 3, an. 1655.

Right worshipful sir and sirs,

Your worship's loving friends and brethren, the deputy, assistants, and fellowship of merchants adventurers of England, residing at Hamburg.

RICHARD BRADSHAW, deputy.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning to secretary Thurloe.

From Berghen, neere Dunkirke, April 3, 1655.

SIR,

Vol. xxv.
P. 77.

SINCE I received your letters I have wrott two to you, one dated the 2d instant, the other the 10th, and therein gave you as good an accompt as I could in that hast and hurrie I was in att that time. If I have bin too brieft in any thing, and not exact, you must impute itt to the reason of my not receiving your commands, and more especially the cipher, an unsuspicionable addresse unto you, as also some bills for money. Sir, I assure you, it is my earnest desire to serve you; and if you thinke I may be useful, and as I have dealt frankly with you, and really runn much hazard in doing it, I begg the favoure, that you would deale as freely with me without faile by the next post; for I have made an excuse to the king, to come and attend this way on some busines that concerns me for 8 or 10 dayes; and longer I cannot stay, being of an old sayeing, between two stools there

there is noe depending; and for every letter I write to you, I run a hazard of being ruined, for want of the cipher and address; besides, to indeavour an avoiding of itt, I have bin att the charge of sending purposely a servant nere 30 leagues a time, to put my letters into the male. Sir, I shall not hold you longer in this discourse; only tell you, according to your promise, I expect to be noe loser; and in pursuance of that, which I have assured you of, I assure you, I will most faithfully, effectivly, and most considerably serve you, if you thinke fitt to command me, and I will not faile doing itt what way you shall appointe. If soe be you would conferre with me yourself in London, send me a passe in any name as a marchant, I will finde some business to be employed by the king in, and under that pretence come to you in a short time; but I must have soe much time as to speake with him first; or if you would have me conferre with any persone abroad, or that you may send over, I will, and give him that accompt, that I dare not committ to paper; and however, if you thinke I may serve you here, I will not faile to give you a just accompt weekly of all things, and shall leave myself for recompence wholly to yourself. Sir, I am thus tedious, being I would have you clearely understand me, and being I know not when I may have the same oportunity of writing, and shall desire you would not faile letting me have a full answer next post, but be sure you are cautious in writing, and now and then interlace some truthes of cavaliere newes; for letters are most times opened by some private enemies you have up and downe these countryes, and remember your name to be John Browne, and mine Manwaring, and lett your duplicate be directed to Bruges, as in my last I wrott; and another to me, to be left with mr. John Botler, marchant in Dunkirque. Sir, I once more intreate you not to faile, and soe proceed to newes, which, I pray, lett not be published in the pamphlets, being itt may cause a suspicion of some here about the king, and soe disfinable the advance of your master's service. Sir, last fryday morning the king removed from out of his private quarter in Zealand, back to Colen, with Ormond, col. Blague, and two or three other servants with him. This I can assure you, for I parted with him att the boate, that was to carry him to Dort, which you may be assured of and relye on, notwithstanding all reports of his being in England, for he never was further then Zealand, and some ten or twelve that he used there in dispatches, only knew itt. Last post we had letters from my lord Wilmott, who is come backe to London, passeth for a Frenchman, and is in a yellow periwig. In my last I gave you a hint, where he might be found, as also mr. Donald Oneile, from whome I had this day a letter from London. He goes by the name of Brian, and somtimes Roberts; but that, I presume, he hath left off, sinc his escape from Dover. Remember what I have told you of, that Markhams of the Savoye, mr. John Denham, mr. Edward Progers, my lord Lumley, mr. Henry Seymour, sir Fred. Cornwallis, and all that gang of people, are the men that assist them in London as to making of escapes, helping to convey any that come thither to goe to other parts of the kingdome, and the like; and really whatever it costs, you must endeavour the apprehending all those persons, that go to and fro to embroyle the nation, which is theire business. Also I pray take notice, that there is one mr. Cressett, who liveth neere Salisbury house, who is very prompt to assist in these petty things. Sir, for your better remembrance, I will here give you the most considerable in this list, viz.

The lord Wilmot, who passeth sometimes for a Frenchman, other times by the name of Jack Wilton, or Simmons marchant.

Mr. Oneile, by Roberts, Brian, and Southby.

Major Armerer, by Wright and Johnson.

Mr. John Trelawney, as sir Robert Stone's man.

Mr. John Seymour, as a Rotterdam marchant, and somtimes by Diggs.

Mr. Henry Manning, by Darlington and Clackston.

Mr. Herbert Price, by Whitmore.

Major John Scott.

Mr. Spencer and sir William Compton, brothers to the earle of Northampton.

Sir John Mince, by William Thomas.

Col. Robert Phillips, by Gorge and Henderson.

His wife comes also over, and now is expected.

Mr. Thomas Rosse, who liveth near Charing Crosse, was lately at Colen.

As also col. Richard Palmer, who loges at mr. Huntley's house over-against the Horse-shoe taverne in Drury-lane, and goes by the name of John Wood.

SIR,

These are the principle envoyes and agents to draw the nation into combustion, but they are backed by many persons of quality; all which I leave to your consideration; but if you caused some kinde of proclamation to be made against them in perticular, as also a strickt search

A. D. 1655. search and care for their apprehension; you would much startle the vigour of your enemyes; and this you may lett be taken notice of in some diurnall, but not lett the names and hints I give you of them be mentioned, but make use of that your selfe; and take this notice, that I advise you, a vigilant care be had of the midland havens; for I assure you, the king's returne to Colen is but to amuse you, and not to leave this former's action, of which I could tell you, he is not altogether unprovided of men and money abroad. Sir, I should write more particulars, had I your cipher, which I begg by the next post, as also a pass, to lye dormant by me, to come over as occasion may serve as you think fitt. For what sume of money, I leave it to yourself, but intreate something considerable, being of the vast expences I have bin at, and must continue it to doe you good service. I value not, whether itt be payable at Dunkirque, Bruges, or Antwerp; but lett a greate care be taken, that noe suspition be given, from whence itt comes; as also write very darkely yourself; which stayeing purposely here for, I must intreate you not to faile the next post, that I may steere accordingly, being, sir,

Your affectionate and humble servant,

HEN. MANWARING.

I send noe duplicate of this, being I delivered itt myself to the post. Lett yours be directed for mee, to be left with mr. John Butler, merchant in Dunkirque. Most of the perones I name are now in England, and those that are not, goe and come almost every week.

The superscription,

*These for my most honoured friend John Thurloe, esq;
secretary of state, present at Whitehall, London.*

A letter of intelligence.

SIR,

Vol. xxv.
P. 51.

THOUGH I should bee so unfortunat as not to be able to moove you out of any consideration of my owne perticular, to give mee one single returne of those many letters I have of late writ to you, yet I hope for your owne sake, and to ease yourselfe for the future, of receiving any farther trouble of this nature from mee, you will be pleased at least to let mee know your answer of what I have already writ to you, and whether it bee your desire I should write to you any more or noe. This is the 7th or 8th letter I have sent you without hearing any thing from you, though the substance of what I writ I did conceive would require haste, it being a proposition I made of coming, 19. 41. 16. 2. 30. 21. 6. 42. 22. 43. 31. 36. 12. 3. 26. 25. © S. 39. 37. 28. 36. 40. 41. 25. 37. that so I might bee able to doe your friend more service in the businesse that is now on foot, then it is possible for mee to doe at this distance. I confesse I tooke this to bee a proposition, against which there could bee noe objection, and would sufficiently testify the reallity of my intentions to serve him; but if I have beene mistaken, I hope you will not refuse mee the favour to let me know soe much, that I may noe longer remayne in an error, or bee ignorant of what your friend is resolved to doe with me. By the which you will lay a very greate obligation upon

Callais, April 3,
[1655.]

Your most humble,

and most faithfull servant,

STAMFORD.

The superscription,

*For lieutenant collonel Kelsey, gouvernor of Dover castle,
at Sommerset house, London.*

Montg.

Examinations touching the discovery of a plot, &c. taken before Thomas Lloyd, esq; high sheriff, Hugh Price, Thomas Niccolls, and Edward Allen, esqrs; justices of the peace of the county of Montgomery, April 3, 1655.

Vol. xxv.
P. 59.

JOHN Tomley of Colfrin, in the county of Montgomery, cardmaker, examined, saith, that upon monday, tuesday, wednesday, and thursday, the 8th of March, 1654, and the day before, this examine was holding his father's plough, he being a very aged man; and this examine saith, that he heard nothing of a plot, until after the same was discovered; and also saith, that he was not on horseback that night; and likewise saith, that

that he neither knew nor heard of any man on horseback that night, or at any other time A. D. 1655.
tending towards any plot; and further is not demanded.

THOMAS LLOYD.
HUGH PRICE.
THOMAS NICCOLLS.
EDWARD ALLEN.

JOHN [] TOMLEY
his mark.

David ap Pugh, of Colfrin, in the said county of Montgomery, gent. being called before us the day aforesaid, being the second time after a week's imprisonment, to be examined upon oath, touching the discourse of the said plott, refused to be examined upon oath.

THOMAS LLOYD.
HUGH PRICE.
THOMAS NICCOLLS.
EDWARD ALLEN.

Depositions touching the discovery of a late plot intended against his highness the lord Montg. protector and the commonwealth, taken at Pool the 3d of April, 1655, before Com. Thomas Lloyd, esq; high sheriff, Hugh Price, Edward Allen, and Thomas Niccolls, esqrs; justices of the peace of the said county.

GRIFFITH Pugh, of Colfrin, in the county of Montgomery, gent. aged 31 years, Vol. xxv. or thereabouts, upon oath examined, deposeth, that he heard talk of a plot, but P. 65. what day, or by whom, or what was said touching the said plot, this deponent knoweth not; and being demanded, whether he knew who stole his mother's mare, which one mr. Billinger took near unto Kanamunoch, upon thursday at night the 8th of March, 1654, saith, that if he should take his oath upon that, he should swear against himself, because this deponent heard it was reported, that this deponent rid off the said mare.

And being farther demanded, whether he saw or heard of any armed men abroad the said 8th of March at night, said, that he heard there were some abroad the said night, and one Edward Edwards told him the same. And being further demanded, whether he knew of his brother David Pugh to go forth the said night, saith, that he saw his brother David Pugh, John Tomley, the son of Richard Tomley, of Colfrin, of the said county, and Edward Penryn, son of Jeffery Penryn, of the said Colfrin, in his brother David's yard, about 2 or 3 hours within night of the said day, on horseback with swords, and all ride away; but being demanded, whither they went, said, he could not tell; and being further demanded, whether he did not ask them, whither they went, said, it was against himself to answer. And being further demanded, whether he heard, who had his mother's mare, said, he heard one mr. Billinger had her. And being further demanded, who rid the said mare when Billinger took her, refused to answer, and said it was against himself. And being further demanded, whether he saw the said Billinger the said night, refused to answer, and also said, that it was against himself. And being further demanded, whether he saw any more men on horseback that night, besides the aforementioned three men, refused to answer, likewise saying, that it was against himself; and further is not required to depose.

THOMAS LLOYD.
HUGH PRICE.
EDWARD ALLEN.
THOMAS NICCOLLS.

GRIFFITH [] PUGH.
his mark.

The examination of Randle Eyton, of Knolton, in the county of Flint, gent. taken before William Crowne, esq;

WHO saith, that upon thursday morning last, he came from home to sir Thomas Vol. xxv. Harris's house about ten of the clock, where he found sir Thomas, one mr. White, P. 61. and one mr. Moore, and no stranger else, and denieth that he knew of any arms; or ammunition there, or design whatsoever, tending to any rising to the disturbance of the peace of the commonwealth.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

RANDLE EYTON.

The examination of Elias Preston, of Wrexham, in the county of Denbigh, surgeon barber.

A. D. 1655. **W**HO saith, that he came to sir Thomas Harris's house at Boreacton upon thursday last, where he found only sir Thomas Harris that he knew, and was not there above an hour and half before he was taken; and the occasion of his coming thither was, to view a fore leg of one Vaughan's, a servant of sir Thomas Harris's, for which purpose he had been several times sent to; and denieth that he had any knowledge of any plot against Shrewsbury, or that he carried any letters for sir Thomas Harris, or was ever sent of any message for him.

ELIAS PRESTON.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

The examination of Thomas Jones, of Birchgroves, in the county of Salop, yeoman.

WHO being asked, whether he were at sir Thomas Harris's house upon thursday last, he saith, that he thinketh he was there, but is not certain; and saith, that he was at Shrewsbury upon thursday last; and the occasion of his coming there was, to look after a pie, that was sent by him this examine to sir George Harris's of London, brother of the said sir Thomas, and was lost in the carriage, which was before Christmas last, and then he came to one Charlton's and Farrian's in Mardall: denieth, that he knew of any plot or design in this country, or that sir Thomas Harris ever sent any letters by him to any person whatsoever.

The marke of
THOMAS [] JONES.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

The opinion of mr. attorney general Prideaux, and mr. Steele recorder, Whether the lord protector may not make a lease of the two parts of a recusant's estate, which are under sequestration for recusancy only?

April 3, 1655.

Vol. xxv.
p. 73.

WE are of opinion, that the protector may make suche lease for what terme and what rent he pleaseth; and that suche leases have beene usuallie made in former times.

EDMUND PRIDEAUX.
WILLIAM STEELE.*The consul and senate of Zurich to the protector.*

Serenissime ac celsissime domine protector, domine honore summo prosequende,

Vol. xxv.
p. 299.

Generosus dominus Flemming olim apud nos residens Anglicanus, tempore suae commorationis & magistratum & cives omni amicitiae & amoris affectu profectus est, & vicissim tam publice quàm privatim condignum honorem & benevolentiam omnium expertus est. Quam praesertim ei commonstrarunt nonnulla nostri & consilarii & cives ipsi benevole inserviando aedibus locatis, & rebus variis ad vitae honestam sustentationem necessariis, nec non etiam numerata pecunia, prout rationes iterum probe ostendunt. Is quidem dictus dominus Flemming debitam persolutionem aliquoties iterato promisit, asserens se lubentissimè suis creditoribus satisfacere velle, quamprimum impetrare potuerit ea, quae ipsi in Anglia deberentur. Cum autem inter dictos nostros cives Johannes Jacobus & Johannes Hulricus Gessneri fratres, Georgii Gessneri pia memoriae haeredes, cui & conjunctim Felici Orellio etiam piè defuncto, dictus dominus Flemming summam haud exiguam debet, ad eum inopiae gradum nunc temporis redacti sint, ut nequeant ulteriorem moram sufferre; ac ea propter praefatus Hulricus Gessnerus in animum sibi induxerit, ipsemet Londinum proficisci, & praedicto domino Flemming rei suae angustiam, prout convenit, ante oculos ponere; cumque convenerint insuper singuli ejus creditores, & eidem Gessnero potestatem dederint, simul etiam eorum exposcendi debita, submissim & intensissimè nos rogantes velimus omnium nomine ad serenissimam celsitudinem vestram ipsum etiam intercessionalibus nostris comitari. Quarum aequam petitionem recusare nolentes bona cum serenissimae celsitudinis vestrae venia, ei summo studio harum latorem commendamus,

commendamus, intercedentes qua par est observantia, ut à serenissima celsitudine vestra A. D. 1655.
protectionem peregrino in justa causa sollicitanda necessariam, & favorem omnem ad
omnia impedimenta, quæ ejus æquis postulatis & debitæ satisfactioni obstaculo erunt,
removenda requisitum impetret.

Interea Deum omnipotentem pro ejus longæva salute & felicissimo ulteriori regi-
mine animitus venerantes, dabamus ad diem decimum quartum mensis Aprilis, anno
M.D.C.L.V.

Celsitudinis vestræ studiosissimi consul & senatus civitatis Tigurinæ.

*Serenissimo ac celsissimo domino Olivario domino protectori
reipublicæ Angliæ, Scotiæ, & Hybernæ, suarumque
ditionum, domino nostro summo bonore prosequendo.*

Bordeaux to his son, the French ambassador in England.

MY SON,

JUST now I have received two of your packets, after which we did so much long, by Vol. xxiv.
reason the posts did not arrive upon their usual days, and that gave cause to pretend p. 482.
the rupture of your treaty, for the reasons mentioned in your letter of the 8th; and
which did oblige me to leave Ruell, where I stayed a few days, to come to Paris, to so-
licit the council and his eminence to take off the seizure, which was laid upon the English
ships, which was ordered, and sent to all the ports of France, before we were informed of
the discontent of the council of England, the Hollanders having the like cause of com-
plaint; so that if there be only that pretence to hinder the conclusion of your treaty,
you will soon remove it. I saw his eminence yesterday at the Bois de Vincennes: he de-
clared to me to have very little satisfaction in your conduct, and doth not believe, that
you will be able to effect your treaty, since that the protector doth make scruple to explain
roundly and clearly his intentions, by an article, whereof the sincerity ought to be the
foundation, and especially to contract that particular amity, which I mentioned in my
former. His eminence doth still declare to be very much desirous of peace, and this pri-
vate union, so that although that you have order, and likewise an intention to break and
return, I am still of the opinion of the earl of Brienne, that your delays of returning
will not be useless; and since that with so much precaution they have taken off the seizure,
which was laid upon the English ships, you may judge of the design of peace desired by
us. The earl of Brienne told me last night, that the council had very much approved
of the offers, which you had made to your commissioners, to sign out of hand the
treaty of peace, without any other conditions or propositions; and that by their refusing
and delaying, they did conceive here, that there was some treaty with Spain, the ad-
vantages being so great for the protector to agree with us, that unless he were not assured
of an assistance and union from Spain, it were impossible for him to break with us. If so
be there do happen a breach, his eminence told me the English would suffer more
than we. We are here altogether in peace; our armies are quiet, and the Spaniards
low and weak. The commissioners of Bretagne, Normandy, Poictou, and Biscay do
sollicit here daily to have permission to arm against the English. They do promise to
themselves a great number of ships to do their business, where it doth clearly appear;
that the dispositions of the people here are for a war with England, being provoked
thereunto by their continual losses.

Paris, April 14, 1655. [N. S.]

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning to secretary Thurloe.

Berghen, 14 April, 1655.

SIR,

I ONLY write this to give you notice, that I have writt three letters to you under cover Vol. xxv.
to captain Manley, which if he sends not, I pray cause to be inquired after. I forgott p. 81.
to tell you, that one mr. Richard Nichols, a brother-in-law to mr. Fretswell, in St. Martin's
Lane, is a servant of the duke of Yorke's, and his agent there, in all his business.
Mr. Marmaduke Darcey, brother to the lord Darcey, is a person much trusted and valued;
and att Chase's house, a pothecary in Coven-Garden, you may alwaies finde some of those
I mention, and there's one Pile, a chirurgeon, that is employed. The most generall
places for address of letters is thither, to Lee a linen draper on Ludgate-hill, to Jones,
a girdler at Chancery-lane end, and to one Pickering, at the naked boy, nere Strand-
bridge.

A. D. 1655. bridge. Sir, as I have dealt most freely and ingeniously with you, for as much as could with prudence be committed to paper, soe I expect and stay here purposely for those things I writt for, and your commands; and assure yourself, there is none more readily your's, nor shall doe more considerable services, then,

Sir, your humble servant,

HEN. MANWARING.

Direct your's to me, to mr. Butler's, a merchant at Dunkirque.

Capt. J. Griffiths to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxv.
p. 95.

BY my last I gave you an accompt of the unhappy escape of sir Richard Malleverer, for the retaking of whom neither charge nor paynes hath been wanting, although not successfull answerable to desire; only my friend, whom I sent post to York, hath apprehended one Ellis, who pretended to be a servant of his; but since upon examination (as I am informed by my friend) hath confessed himself to be captain lieutenant to sir Richard, and that he hath and is able to discover as much of the designe and the parties therein concerned, as sir Richard himselfe could do; for that all his business therein was managed by this Ellis; an accompt whereof I doubt not you will receive from collonell Lilburne, unto whose custody my man delivered him. I have also sent two of his servants to the common goale, where they remayne at my charge, as there master and the rest did during their stay, for they stayed not to call for a reckoning. I pray let mee knowe how you would have these two disposed of; they are meane inconsiderable persons. Yesterday I received a letter from colonel Ireland, grounded upon an expresse from his highnes, for the apprehending of collonell Robert Werden, which accordingly I forthwith did, and committed him to the custody of captain Spillman, (captain lieutenant to my lord Lambert) who hath undertaken his security. He hath also seized mr. Thomas Smith, eldest son to sir Thomas Smith, and captain Edward Morgan of Gulgrian in Flintshire, all whom are kept 'till his highnes's farther pleasure be knowne. Our militia at present proceeds not at all in the county, and but slowly in the city, without which, or the continuance of some of the army with us, we may not yet expect ourselves to be safe; for although the army (by God's great mercy) be well abated, yet not calmed in the spiritts of many men, of whom I hope some exact account will be required, which is the desire of,

Chester, April 4, 1655.

Sir, your most humble servant, whilst

J. GRIFFITH.

The examination of Francis Jones, taken the 4th of April 1655. [By secretary Thurloe.]

Vol. xxv.
p. 99.

THAT he was beyond the seas this winter at Bologne, and went thither to put off four horses he carried from hence: that he met with the lord Gerard, one Bowers, and some other English gentlemen, but he had not much discourse with them, only Gerard said, that there was a design, and he perceived that Bowers had not long since fled from England for being in John Gerard's design, for which he was executed, and believes there was a real intention of executing that design.

That he was acquainted with the business in the beginning of the last parliament by Richard Pyle a chirurgeon, and which was agent for the king in the West; he saith, that this Pyle used to lodge at mr. Chace's an apothecary in Covent Garden, or at the sign of the four Fishes.

That three days before the rising, Pyle told him of the rendezvous, and that several gentlemen, as mr. Penruddock and others, would meet him, as they did, and also sir Joseph Wagstaff, who told him, that the marquis of Hertford was engaged in it, and that the duke of York would also be in Cornwall, and said, that he and the lord Wilmott parted from him in France very lately, and that they came for England, and landed at Margetts, and that the duke of York went into Normandy. He told him also, as Pyle did before, that the levelling party in the army would also join in with them, and make disturbances in the army, and they were much troubled that Wyldman was taken.

That Pyle, after he saw there was no greater appearance, said, it was the baseness of those who had engaged themselves, and failed. That Pyle told him, that colonel Gardner was engaged: that he met Pyle at one Pyle's house in Wallop in Hampshire. That they did all expect the marquis of Hertford very earnestly; and that Wagstaff said, he would meet them

them at Blandford, that the said Pyle was very much acquainted with one Read that is now in the Tower. That Pyle informed them, that a great party would rise in Kent, the North, and in Wales. Said, that Scotland and Ireland was to rise also at the same time.

That when he was in France, which was a little before Christmas last, there was the cardinal's regiment brought down thither; and it was reported there, that the French were to help the king to his crown; and the governor of Bollogne said, that he wished he were in England with 2000 such horse as his were.

That Plymouth was the place, where the Duke was to land.

That Pyle mentioned lord Willoughby of Parham, and sir William Waller, to be engaged.

That when, by the rising in the West and North, they had drawn the army from London, then they were to have risen here in London and the parts about.

Mr. George Marshall, warden of New-College Oxford, to the protector.

MY LORD,

SINCE your highnes sent your messenger to mee, I writt to you an expresse, concerne- Vol. xxv.
ing the messenger, that was to wait upon your highnesse from Hamburgh, which I P. 85.
doubt not but it has obtained your reception through my lady Disbrowe's meanes. My lord, haveing received some few more passages since the last from Hamburgh, concerning the same subject the former letters were of, from the same gentleman, I could not withhold them from your highnes sight, they being the conclusion of a letter conteineing other matters. That which is of publique concernment I have herein inclosed sent unto your highnesse.

New College Oxon,

April 4, 1655.

Your highnesse's most humble and faithfull servant,

GEORGE MARSHALL.

MY LORD,

I have before the sealeing hereof mett with some more passages to the same purpose from the same gentleman to another friend, which I have transcribed, and herein inclosed sent to your highnesse.

Inclosed in the preceding.

Mr. John Gunter to mr. George Marshall.

This vacation, which is one of the two long vacations, I have hasted the directions to you.

SIR,

HERE hath litle of publicke concernement occurred since my last : Ch. St. cannot yet Vol. xxv.
be discovered : the last news of him was, that about a fortnight since, he was seen goe P. 87.
to the water side to take shiping, intending, as he gave out, for England ; but hearing nothing of him since, it is supposed his plott with you is soe thoroughly discovered, that he steeres his course some other way. Wilmott, with some others of his crew, about 14 in company, went since the discovery of the plott in a disguise through this towne, and took shipping in the Balticke-sea for England, where he certainly hath been arrived about a month, letters having been received from him thence by some here in Germany, however he conceales himself from being discovered. The levys by the princes of Germany and the circumjacent parts goe on apace, especially that of the Swede ; and this day I was assured by a very intelligent man of great note, and much affected to his highness, that all the preparations of this empire were intended against the commonwealth of England, if their resolution be not altered, which is rather conceived to be onely deferred. The Swede, above all other princes in these parts, is most considerable, and is most deep of any of the rest (notwithstanding the pretended league) in his ingagments to C. S. They had hired 5 shippes in the Elve here, to carry souldiers from the Stifte of Breem, as they gave out, to Gottenburge ; which all the world looked on but as a flam, having men and shippes enough of their owne nearer hand ; but it too plainly appears now ; for since the great discovery of the plott in England, they have turned off those shippes with halfe pay. One that has better reason to know than I am willing to commit to paper, assures me, that Richard Harrison and all that party had a hand in this plott, and made tearms with Charles Stewart, though with soe great privacy on both sides, that particulars cannot yet be proved. I forbear to repeat any thing of my last about the tithe of Wedington woods, having there fully stated that buisnesse. I take leave to subscribe myselfe,

Hamburgh, March 10, 1655.

Your faithfull servant in the Lord,

My love and service to mrs. Marshall.

JOHN GUNTER.

My love to John Davenport and his wife.

VOL. III.

4 T

HAMBURGH.

HAMBURGH.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxv.
p. 89.

HERE are great preparations for war, and taking on of souldiers for Germany, Sweden and Denmark; and while they have been pretending war with, and sending envoys one to another, I am assured from good hands, they have been combining and intending a confederacy against us. Sweden is deep as any of them: I have seen a copy, and had the translating of a congratulatory letter writ from the new king of Sweden to C. St. giving him all his titles as k. of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland. Koningsmark, the Swedes general before Breme, and an inveterate enemy to our nation, is raising in the Stifte of Breme a great army of horse and foot, which were certainly intended for England or Scotland, had not the discovery of the plot in England prevented them; for I believe their intentions rather deferred than altered. Wilmot hath been in England some weeks, however disguised. Some eminent persons are in hold with you, as having a hand in this plot under disguised names, of which O Neal is one. I am assured from some near C. St. that Rich. Harrison, and all that party had been trucking with them, and obtained terms from C. St. though I cannot hear what they were. This plot hath been hatching ever since his escape from Worcester. The Swedes intend a very great fleet this summer, wherever it falls, and have many gallant ships lye ready in the Baltick-sea, whence they intend to set out. I like not that the French do nodd so in their treaty with us. Some intelligent men think France and Spain not to be soe irreconcilable as their great preparations against the next campaign would speak them to be; if they should close, the storm must fall somewhere. I verily believe there is no nation under heaven loves us cordially; yet if we are beloved of the God of heaven, I know we may do well; and though the nations of the earth lay a confederacy, yet he that weighs them in the balance, turns the scales which way he pleases, who hath delivered, yea, who will deliver, if we have but faith to trust in him alone, and not in our selves.

Bordeaux, the French *embassador* in England, to cardinal Mazarin.

MY LORD,

Vol. xxv.
p. 127.

IHAVE received the two letters, which your eminence did me the honour to write to me, the one of the 3d, the other of the 10th. Your eminence will be pleased to give me leave to refer myself, for as much as concerneth the state of my negotiation, to the letter of the E. of Brienne. I shall also humbly beg of your eminence, before that you condemn me for having proposed the word *presentement*, to cast your eye upon what I did think fit to write unto you, to deface this impressiion which hath no ground, neither in my letters, nor in my discourse to the ministers of this state, nor likewise in the publick reports. And I should think I had forgot myself, if I should happen to take that term for an expedient; it did always appear to me for a restriction, which would alter the whole; and when my commissioners did propose it at any time, I did reject it, giving them to understand the inconveniencies, which it would produce. I will confesse however, that after a long contest upon that point, I entered into the overture, which they made me, to design the house of Austria and their adherents, or those who should be so hereafter, by favouring the interests, or depending on their party, under what pretence soever, upon condition that the article, in regard of the rebels, should remain in the terms which I had proposed; that if by accepting of this proviso, I have exceeded my orders, it was through a belief I had, that the king, by these expressions, might be assured, yea for the time to come, that the forces of England should not traverse his designs, after I had lost the hope, that this government would be brought to a nearer amity with France, prejudicial to the treaty made by the protector with other states; amongst others, the united provinces. I had considered the rebels otherwise than enemies, and when difficulty was made upon the obligation not to assist them, I did submit, after I had considered the inconveniences, which the restriction would produce at this present time, to pass the article as it was offered unto me, if there could be found an example in any other treaty. So likewise my commissioners did propose not to speak of rebels, but to name the prince and his adherents, as well now as hereafter: I did not agree to it; and since that the orders of his majesty do prescribe to insist upon the article in general terms, I shall not rest.

There is one thing more remaining, wherein I am to satisfy your eminence, and that is, that I propose expedients, and when my commissioners have accepted of them, that the next day I will not agree to them. It is true, this complaint was made by the secretary of state in two rencounters; the one, and the most considerable, did regard the article of the arbitrage, and the

the other the banishing of persons, whom I had named in my memorandum to be banished out of England. A. D. 1655.

The contest about this last point did proceed from a subtilty of the secretary of state, who pre-supposed, that I being reduced to the agents alone of the prince of Condé, I ought not to insist upon the two commissioners of Bourdeaux. I know they have endeavoured to draw some advantage from thence, but I do believe, that if your eminence will be pleased to call to mind all that hath passed upon those two subjects, there will not be much cause made to appear, whereby to reproach my conduct.

London, April 15, 1655. [N. S.]

Bordeaux to count Brienne.

MY LORD,

I LET pass the last ordinary, without giving me the honor to write to you ; for having Vol. xxv. nothing to write to you but the continuation of the delay on the behalf of this state, p. 103. under pretence of the general seizure made in France upon all the merchandize and ships of the English, my commissioners came themselves to me, to demand some satisfaction, and to receive information thereof, adding withal, that there should not be proceeded in the treaty any further. In the mean time I told them, that I had no advice of the said seizure, and did press my commissioners to give me a last resolution upon the difficulties which do hinder the accommodation at present ; and I did take away all hope from them, that I would pass the clause, which doth regard the assistance of enemies and rebels, in other terms, than what was agreed upon. They told me, that they had no order to speak of that business, and that as soon as they should be informed of the truth and motives of the seizure, I should receive an answer. Since this conference, which ended in protestations, that it was not any longer in my power to suffer myself to be delayed, I let pass three days without following the business, believing that the letters from France would have dissipated the reports of the seizure, whereof nothing was writ me from Paris. And although that the news of the 8th of this month did not give me any further information, yet I sent the day before yesterday to my commissioners and the secretary of state, to demand a last resolution : not receiving it, I sent them word yesterday at night, that if to day it were not given me, I would write to the lord protector to have audience to take leave, or at least a pass. And as the letter of the 10th was delivered to me this morning, I sent to one of them to advertise him, that his majesty could not refuse his subjects the seizure of the English ships, but that no hurt should be done to the merchandize, and that all should remain entire, 'till such time as they should hear of our accommodation, which I had order to conclude or to retreat. He sent me word, that this day was designed for my business, and some few hours afterwards the lord Nieuport came to see me. I thought it was to make some new overture unto me, or to know whether I was in a real resolution to be gone ; but he remained upon general expressions of the desire, which as well himself as his superiors have, to see a happy end of my negotiation, insinuating unto me, that it would have been convenient, to have avoided our differences, not to have made any mention of rebels. He did also mention the seizure unto me, and told me, that the secretary of state had told him, that was the chief obstacle in the treaty, and a sign of the little disposition, which we had to the peace. It was no difficult thing for me to convince the said ambassador, that his majesty had not forgot any thing to establish the same between the two nations, and could not deny, upon the complaints of his subjects, the seizure of the English ships, 'till such time that the acts of hostility, which the English do exercise against them, do cease. And as for that of the rebels, he did only maintain his opinion upon the confidence, which we ought to have in the good faith of this government.

I read to him my letter, and he was presently satisfied, that I could not pass in silence the said rebels. I have nothing more to do, if all protestations, declarations, and persuasions will not prevail, but to take leave, and not to defer it any longer. I sent this night to the secretary of state ; he presently sent word by my man, that the council had been together 'till past two in the afternoon upon that business, and that to morrow I should know their resolution. This discourse in moderate terms was followed by another of a different nature, and full of reproaches of the said seizure ; of the preparations, which had been made in France to transport forces into England at the time of the late rising, particularizing, that the regiment of his eminence was sent upon that design towards the coast ; that the lord protector had certain advice, that the duke of York was to command them. And after they had compared our seizure to that, which was made in Denmark at the beginning of the war with the states general, and as we had begun the disorders and depredations, so we would begin the war, he made an end in saying, that

HAMBURGH.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxv.
p. 89.

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A. D. 1655. he did wonder, that I would pretend protection in England, and that to morrow I should have news. This ill humour came to be provoked through the complaints of the merchants trading into France, to whom he had offered permission to seize the effects of the French merchants, which they have refused, desiring rather, that the lord protector would desire and oblige me to write into France upon that subject. The said secretary promised them, that there should be care taken about it. I am also informed by another hand, that the dispute was high in the council, and the said seizure might be compared to the last remedies, which are used in desperate diseases. My negotiation did not seem to be in that condition; for all the information that hath been given me, and that conduct, which hath been used of late, hath declared, that they were disposed to an accommodation. To maintain their minds in the same disposition, I have lately sent to speak to my chief commissioners upon all that had been said by the secretary of state; and it may be, this present may inform his majesty of the resolution which hath been taken upon the complaint of the merchants, and upon my instances for the conclusion of the treaty.

London, April 15, 1655.

The examination of Robert Werden, esq; taken at Prudshome, April 5, 1655.

Vol. xxv.
p. 159.

THIS examine saith, that he knoweth one Hallfall, a little black man, who was one that was apprehended for the death of Ascham, agent in Spain; but that he saw him not in England these many years, but about two years ago he saw the said Hallfall at the Hague in Holland.

And being farther examined saith, that he knoweth not any man that went under the name of Moore, or any other man whose name was Hallfall. Neither ever had any conversation or discourse either with mr. Warburton of Arley, or with colonel John Booth, concerning the late insurrections; neither hath he had any meetings with any the aforesaid persons or any other person whatsoever in order thereunto; neither did ever any thing occasionally pass concerning the same, either with the said persons, or any other persons whatsoever.

And being examined, whether he knew one Lifson, he saith, he never knew any of the name; neither ever had any discourse with any person under that name, at any time whatsoever.

He farther saith, that being at Vale-Royal, at mr. Cholmley's, at dinner, about a month ago, he saw colonel Booth, who came in by accident, as he conceiveth, and dined with them, but there did not any discourse pass between him and the said colonel Booth, or with any other person, about the late insurrections; and further saith not.

Taken before us,

ROBERT WERDEN.

G. IRELAND,
E. ASPINWALL,
T. SPILLMAN.

Kent. S.

The examination of Richard Parkes, barber in Ashford, taken April 5, 1655.

Vol. xxxv.
p. 161.

HE saith, that about December last, a tall black man, with a long visage, about thirty years of age, as he judged him to be (but little or no hair on his face) in a grey suit trim'd with black ribbons, and a large dark stuff coat, called by the name of mr. Stone, who came newly out of France, as he understood, came to his master's, colonel Thornhill's house at Alingtrey in Kent, and staid there all night; and in the morning bringing up water, found one mr. Rosse in the chamber with mr. Stone, and as he was near the door, heard Stone say to Rosse in a low voice, that the rising here should be in March, and that it was so concluded in France. Being further asked, what mr. Rosse was, and how long he had been at the said house, the examine saith, he called himself a Londoner, and had been there two days before, and that he judged him a great scholar, for that he heard him speak Latin, Greek, and other languages, besides Dutch and French. And further saith not.

Chanut,

Chanut, *the French ambassador in Holland, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.*

Hague, April 16, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

I cannot depart from the opinion, which I have, but that the protector will yet close with France, and not suffer you to go away unsatisfied, it being his interest to have peace with France. I did very much doubt, that the seizure, whereof I had advice, but not from the court, would put some stop to your treaties. It was ill advised to make any stop of their ships; but I believe it is taken off again, and that will pacify the protector. That which he told the merchants of London is very considerable against Spain, but all that he saith so publickly is very suspicious. I cannot forbear to fear, but the English have framed some grand design upon the Havanna, or some other place of importance, under colour of some old pretences; but it may be this is but a chimera of my own.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxv.
p. 147.

It is strange we hear yet of no preparations in Brabant for this campaign; they write from thence, that they are as quiet there, as if they were at peace with France.

The envoys of the prince of Condé in Lower Saxony do not advance much in their levies there.

I think I have done well to forbear complimenting, yet a while the lords of Holland, for the good offices of the lord Nieupoort: I shall follow your directions therein.

The examination of Samuel Hadnam, of London, taylor, living at the Lamb in Aldersgate-street, taken this 6th of April, 1655, upon oath, before William Goffe and Charles Worsley, esqrs; justices of the peace within the city of Westminster.

WHO saith, that upon friday before shrove-tuesday last (he not being at home) there came a footman to his house, as his wife told him, belonging to sir Thomas Peyton of Kent, to bespeak a lodging for a gentleman, which accordingly was that night provided for him; and that night there came to the examine's house a gentleman with a servant, a Frenchman of a low stature, which Frenchman being now produced before the examine, he saith, that is the same man, who waited upon the said gentleman, who went by the name of mr. Symonds. Vol. xxv. p. 163.

And being asked, what resort was to the said mr. Symonds, saith, that divers came to his house, to ask for the said mr. Symonds, and did also speak with him, but saith, they were all strangers to him, save sir Thomas Peyton, who came to him at this examine's house and spake with him but once, as this examine saw; only he came another morning to speak with him as he said, and asked for mr. Symonds, but knew not whether he spake with him or not, the said Symonds being then in bed. He further saith, that this examine was called for by the said Symonds to eat with him sometimes, and that he was a proper fat man, with a very round visage; he was shaved close in his face, and the hair upon his head was yellowish; and it might be a perriwig for ought the examine knoweth. And that he abode in the said house from the friday aforesaid, to the tuesday following, and went away late in that evening with the said Frenchman, saying, he was taking a journey into the country.

This examine further saith, that sir Thomas Peyton did enquire for the said gentleman by the name of mr. Symonds.

SAMUEL HADNAM.

WILLIAM GOFFE.
CHARLES WORSLEY.

The examination of Sybill Hadnam, wife of Samuel Hadnam, taylor, of Aldersgate-street, taken this 6th day of April, 1655, before William Goffe and Charles Worsley, esqrs; justices of the peace in the city of Westminster.

WHO saith, that upon the friday before shrove-tuesday last, in the evening, she came to her house, in Aldersgate-street, a boy, and asked her this examine, whether she had ever a lodging to let? whereto she said, that she had a low room to let; and the examine asking, who it was for, said, that it was for a gentleman that was newly come to town, and so went away; and about half an hour after the boy came again, and bid the maid make a fire in the room; and about half an hour after that, the gentleman himself came, and with him a servant, who was a Frenchman; which Frenchman being produced

Vol. xxv.
p. 169.

A. D. 1655. produced before the examinee, she saith, that this is the same Frenchman, who waited upon the said gentleman. And further saith, that the gentleman went by the name of mr. Symonds. And being asked, who did frequent the said mr. Symonds during his stay at her house, saith, that sir Thomas Peyton came unto him, but did not stay with him above half an hour. And saith, that she doth not know, whether sir Thomas Peyton came to him more than once; but her husband told her, that two or three others were with him; but who they were, she knows not, nor did hear. She saith, that her husband and she sometimes sat with him, and he was a tall fat man, full-faced man, his hair yellowish; and that he staid in her house from friday afore said until tuesday night; and then about seven or eight a clock at night he went away, and told the examinee, if any body asked for him, she should say, he was gone out of town, and would be back again in two or three days. She further saith, that sir Thomas Peyton, as her maid told her, came in with him the said mr. Symonds the first night he came; and that her maid's name is Frances Fowkes.

SYBILL HADNAM.

W. GOFFE.

CHARLES WORSLEY.

The examination of William Webb, servant to sir Thomas Peyton, taken upon oath, before William Goffe and Charles Worsley, esqrs. justices of the peace in the city of Westminster, April 6, 1655.

Vol. xxv.
p. 165.

WHO saith, that his master, sir Thomas Peyton, and a gentleman, called (as he hath been informed) mr. Symonds, being at the Horn-tavern in Fleet-street together, about five or six weeks since, as he remembreth, his master sent him to a barber's in Bell-yard by Temple-bar, where his master's lodging then was, and required him, about eight or nine of the clock at night, to go to mr. Hadnam's, his taylor, in Aldersgate-street, and bespeak a lodging for a gentleman, which the examinee did; and saith, he spake with the woman of the house, mrs. Hadnam, for it; and the telling him, that she had a lodging, he went back and told his master of it, who thereupon bid him go away to his lodging in Bell-yard afore said, which he did, and left his master and the said mr. Symonds together; his master then called for a reckoning.

And being asked, what time his master came in that night, he said, it was about ten a clock at night. And being asked, what other company was with his master at the tavern afore said, besides the said mr. Symonds, he saith, he saw no other; but that he the said mr. Symonds had a Frenchman waiting upon him, as a servant.

W. GOFFE.

CHARLES WORSLEY.

The mark of
WILLIAM [W.] WEBB.

Mr. Thomas Scot to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxv.
p. 167.
* Mr. Wer-
den.

THE gentleman * (to whome the inclosed relate) came recommended to mee (I might say commaunded upon mee) by so considerable persons of the councell, that formerly knew him, or (by occasion of a very important service, then payd downe as it were in way of earnest, putt a just value upon him) to the businesse of intelligence, and which he afterwards, in a long tract of time, fully answered expectation in; that I have no scruple to present you his papers, to testify my absolute credence to all that he affirms, and to second his desires (to you) for a faire treatment; beeing confident, because I believe him a person of much sincerity and honor, he has and will deserve it, and the more, if you commaund him hither, which perhaps you would have donne many monethes since, if more weighty occasions had not diverted you from the consideration of what was suggested to you particularly concerning him by,

Lambeth, Fryday, April 6, 1655.

Sir, your humble servant,

THOMAS SCOT.

I understand the bearer is colonel Werden's sonne, who perhaps knowes nothing of his father's former correspondencies with mee.

Bordeaux

Bordeaux, to his son the French ambassador in England.

Paris, April, 7, 1655. [N. S.]

MY SON,

SINCE my last letter I have received your packets of the 5th and 8th of this month. I sent away presently that to his eminence, who sent for me next day to come to him at Bois de Vincennes, where he confirmed what he had formerly told me. He seemed to be troubled at the order, which was sent for the seizing of all English ships and goods; and after he had read your letter, he sent away an express presently to have them discharged, and withall he told me, that he had sent an express to you into England with an order of assurance to the lord protector, that the intention of the king was not to trouble him through the said seizure, nor to make use of any advantages at a time of conspiracies and risings in this country; and to justify this action, that in case you had already made the rupture, or that it should happen between the two states, that however they would not deny to restore the said ships and goods seized by virtue of the said ordinance. And his E. charged me thrice in the presence of the marshal of Grammont, and the procureur general Fouquet, that I should write this unto you, and order you to promise so much, and to sign it, and that he would engage his life and his honour, notwithstanding the rupture, that he would restore all the said ships and goods seized upon. He added withall, that he would write to you himself, and gave order in my presence to his secretary to draw up a letter containing the said order, which was sent yesterday by an express. This sudden sending of this express, and the discharging of the said ships, doth argue, as the earl of Brienne doth observe very judiciously, that the cardinal hath no intention to break; and that you had good reason to use your endeavours to prevent it. I shewed him your letter of the 12th, which I had newly received, wherein you give some hope of an accommodation, which he was exceeding glad to hear. You do very well to extend your power and terms to make a good end and conclusion, and not to render your voyage fruitless; and that is the opinion of the earl of Brienne; and I believe a little longer forbearance and patience, where you are, will render all things to your content, and you will be so happy in case of a rupture, that none can blame you for it; for every one will conceive it to be occasioned through the said seizure, which is blamed and condemned by all in general; and if you conclude the treaty of peace, it will be the more to your honour, and every one will acknowledge your great conduct and forbearance to obtain it.

Yesterday arrived here the election of a new pope, cardinal Chigi, and now named Alexander the VIIth. They are very glad of it here at this court; and in regard he was nuncio and ambassador at Munster, where he declared great inclination to the peace, it is hoped that he will endeavour to effect the same.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxv.
p. 209.

The mayor of Bristol, &c. to secretary Thurloe.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

HAVING received information of a servant within this city, that had spoken some dangerous words in relation to the late plot and rising, we sent for him and took the examination against him, with his confession, the copies whereof we have here inclosed. At present we thought good to secure him, and shall attend what further order shall be sent us concerning him. We rest

Your honor's humble servants,

Bristol, April 7, 1655.

JOHN GONNINGE, mayor.
RICHARD ALDWORTH.
ROBERT ALDWORTH.
JOS. JACKSON.
JAMES POWELL.

City of BRISTOL.

The information of Thomas Owen, serjeant to the governor's company, taken the 7th day of April, 1655.

WHO saith, that yesterday he being in company with one Thomas Smith, servant to mr. John Pester, woollen-draper, and discoursing concerning the defeat given

Vol. xxv.
p. 171.

A. D. 1655. to the enemy lately in the West, did hear the said Thomas Smith say, that he was sorry that they did rise so soon, for otherwise he had been with them, and a great many more gentlemen besides that he knew of.

Joseph Biggs of the city of Bristol

INformeth on oath, that yesterday last, one Thomas Smith, and serjeant Owen, were in company in his master's house drinking, at which time serjeant Owen was speaking of the defeating of the enemy in the West; whereupon the said Thomas Smith said, that if they had staid a little longer there, he knew there would have been a great many more with them (meaning as this informant conceives, with the enemy) and said, he himself would have been with them also.

Andrew Morris of the city of Bristol

INformeth on oath, that yesterday last, one Thomas Smith, and serjeant Owen were in company in his master's house, drinking; at which time there was a discourse of the defeat given the enemy lately in the West; and this informant did hear the said Thomas Smith say, that in case they had stood out a little longer, he, with many others, would have been with them.

The examination of Thomas Smith.

April 7, 1655.

Vol. xxv.
p. 172.

THOMAS Smith, servant to mr. John Pester, woollen-draper, being examined, saith, that yesterday he was in company with serjeant Owen, and they had some discourse concerning the rising; and confesseth, that he said, that he knew some that would have been with them, and that he himself did say, he had not cared if he had been amongst them; but saith, his meaning was, concerning what he heard when about two months since he came over out of Ireland, in company with some, who he did hear discourse of a rising or mutiny in England, and wished themselves amongst them, and that he himself did not care, if he were also amongst them. And saith, that his friends are all of them for the present government, and he himself, in case he would at all have risen, it should have been for the lord protector against the enemy, for that he hath been formerly in arms, under captain Pyott, in the service of the commonwealth; but denieth, that he did at all wish himself amongst the enemy, or that he knoweth of any one else, that would have joined with them.

J. Grove to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxv.
p. 173.

THIS morning I received your highnes command, to endeavour the takeing of the lord Wilmott, which I shall use all possible meanes to doe. There is a vessel at Lidd, which came yesterday from France, that brought over passengers, seven whereof came to this towne the last night, who are sent in custodie to Whitehall, to be further examined. One of them told me privatly, that he was imployed as a freind, and hath matter of dangerous consequence. He saith, that there is a man, who hath undertaken to take away your highnes life, that is sent out of France to that purpose; but he believes, that he is not yet arrived at London. It is good for your highnes to be exceeding carefull, when you admitt any straingers to your prefence. I hope the Lord will preserve you, notwithstanding what the devill or men can doe. The inclosed letter is from him, that saith he is a freind. I have sent a partie to Lydd, to seize the master and vessell, and am marching to Rumney my selfe. I have examined some persons, of the carriage of one mr. Bradshaw, a schoolemaster in Wye, relating to the plot, and I finde he is a very suspicious person, and he is one that hath opportunitie to doe much disservice, by reason of the great acquaintance he hath amongst the gentrey; many of them haveing sonnes under his charge to tutor. More of him I shall endeavour for: I have taken securitie for his appearance when called for; I have inclosed an information, which I picked from a young fellow, that is an apprentice at Ashford, that formerly waited on col. Thornhill, which, it may be, your highnes may make some use of, as to estimate thereby, that the plott was hatched in France, and possibly that tall blacke man might be the pretender. I shall

shall search the colonel's house this day very diligently, and some other houses likewise. A. D. 1655.
I pray God blesse your highnes, and preserve the peace of the commonwealth under your
highnes government many yeares, is the prayer of

Your highnes ever faithfull

Ashford, April 7, 1655.

and obedient servant,

J. GROVE.

Thomas South to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I AM returned into England: you may conceive there is some extraordinary reason. Vol. xxv.
I desire that my lord protector be very carefull of stirring abroad until I speake with P. 177.
you, which will be very speedely. I come along prisoner with some gentlemen, whome
I doe mistrust and not without reason, sent by major Grove: which is all in great hast from
your very humble servant,

THOMAS SOUTH.

Ashford, April 7, 1655.

The examination of sir William Ingram, taken at York, April 7, 1655.

SAITH, that upon discourse with major Robert Waters (about January last) the said Vol. xxv.
major Waters told this examinee, that he had received instructions, which he did carry P. 179.
to the king about November last, from sir Arthur Hasleridge and divers others, who
now enjoyed bishop, and dean, and chapter lands, &c. from the commonwealth, to
this purpose, as followeth, viz. that if the said sir Arthur and some others (this examinee
yet remembers not) might enjoy their estates, which they now held, and stand in-
demnified, they would then declare for the king, and assist him as he should command,
or to that purpose; to which he brought answer from the king, that they should enjoy
their estates or others from him equivalent.

WILLIAM INGRAM.

Taken by

RO. LILBURNE.

The information of Gilbert Metcalf, living near Hamsterley, at Rockwood-Hill.

Durham, April 7, 1655.

SAITH, that friday night, the 9th of March, there came mr. Henry Wren of Auk- Vol. xxiv.
land, and three more with him, with each of them a horse and a sword; and one of P. 433.
them had a pair of pistols and holsters on his saddle; but he saith, he knows none of
them, but mr. Henry Wren. He further saith, that he saw one pocket pistol amongst
them. They all four lodged at his mother's house that night; and what discourse they
had he knows not; only the next morning being saturday, they all went from thence
about day break; but whither they went he knows not.

GILBERT METCALF.

This information was taken by me,
W. NASH.

*The deposition of Philip Shelvock, aged 34 years, or thereabouts, taken upon oath
before me Humphrey Mackworth, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the
county of Salop, this 7th of April 1655, at Shrewsbury.*

SAITH, that mr. Ralph Kynaston, of Rulnant, in the county of Montgomery, met Vol. xxv.
this deponent on wednesday the 7th at Maesbrook, being in the place of his habi- P. 193.
tation, and asked him, whether he would go along with him. This deponent asked him,
whither he must go; he replied, no farther than I go myself. This deponent answered,
that he had not a horse fit for service. The said mr. Kynaston bid him make shift with
his own horse for a day or two, and then he should be better furnished. This deponent
was then told by John Rogers of Maesbrook, that his mare would serve; whereupon this

VOL. III.

4 X

deponent

A. D. 1655. deponent asked Ralph Kynaston, whither he was to come; to which the said Ralph Kynaston answered, to a rendezvous on thursday the 8th of March in the evening, in one of Clanomunny-fields, called Cledering-field; and that the said Ralph Kynaston had engaged fifty men with horses and arms, and that he would deliver them up to captain Edward Kynaston, of Clonmapis, in the county of Salop, for two days after, and after that time he would come unto them himself. This deponent confesseth, that the said Ralph Kynaston gave one shilling to himself, and one shilling to the said John Rogers, as engaging money; and this deponent saith, that it was spoke by mr. Kynaston to John Rogers and himself, that they should go to possess themselves of Chirke Castle; and in regard they spoke Welch, which he understands not, he can give no further account of any design, or what was discoursed, more than he hath related. That this deponent coming on thursday in the evening to an alehouse in Maesbrook, where he hoped to meet Ralph Kynaston, and there he saw Roger Jones, John Jones, David Owen, and Edward Owen his brother, who told this deponent, that they had sent to know Ralph Kynaston's intention touching the design; and not long after there came an answer by one Edward Edwards, servant to mr. Kynaston, who said, he ventured his life by swimming the river to prevent their going on, for that his master was betrayed; whereupon they all took their horses and went to their several habitations, as this deponent believeth. Being asked, whether the said persons had arms, he saith, that the said Roger Jones, John Jones, and the Owens, had arms. And further this deponent was not examined.

H. MACKWORTH.

PHILIP SHELVOCK.
his [S.] mark.

*The examination and deposition of Edward Owen, of Maesbrook, aged *8 years, or thereabouts, taken upon oath at Shrewsbury, before me Humphrey Mackworth, esq; one of the justices of the peace for the county of Salop, this 7th of April 1655.*

Vol. xxv.
p. 185.

SAITH, that mr. Ralph Kynaston sent twice to him to come and speak with him at Penny Park in Maesbrook, and that he did go accordingly on wednesday the 7th of March, and met him in the place aforesaid about eleven of the clock in the forenoon, at which time and place the said mr. Kynaston asked this deponent, whether he would go along with him. This deponent answered, he had no horse nor arms; the said mr. Kynaston said, he would give him arms compleat at the rendezvous on thursday night, and that next day he would send out warrants for horses, and this deponent should have a good horse; and the said mr. Kynaston further said, that he scorned to have any horse of his troop, which should not be worth ten pounds; and that for ought he knew, he was to go no farther than Chirke Castle, where he should command as governor, but that they were first to go to Shrewsbury; whereupon this deponent said, that the town of Shrewsbury would not be easily taken. Mr. Kynaston said to him, take no care, all will be our own, for a part of the army, almost half the army, were engaged in the same design. And the said mr. Kynaston promised him this deponent, that whilst he was worth a groat, this deponent should not be damnified for so doing, if he would go along with him. The said mr. Kynaston sent to borrow a horse for this deponent of Thomas Tristram of Maesbrook, but it was denied; and this deponent going on thursday in the evening to the rendezvous in Cledering Field, in the parish of Clanomunny, in the company of Edward Jones, John Jones, and his brother David Owen, who rode behind one of them, was met by one upon the way who was called captain Tongue, who told this deponent and the rest, that he knew our design, and did advise us to turn back, and bid, that one Edward Jones, who was foremost, should be called back; whereupon they turned and rid before to an alehouse called Penny Park; and when this deponent came thither, the said captain John Tongue advised them to go with him to a party of three hundred horse which was three miles off, and he said that he would do his best endeavour to bring the said party to take the men come out of Montgomeryshire, and to bring them away with mr. Ralph Kynaston. The said captain Tongue went thereupon towards Boreacton. This deponent with the rest staying about an hour longer at that house, Edward Edwards, a servant to mr. Ralph Kynaston, came thither, and said he came from his master, who was secured; and did desire, that all his friends who were engaged in those parts would go home, for that they were all betrayed. This deponent being asked, whom he saw on wednesday the 7th of March (being the day whereupon mr. Kynaston engaged most of his men in his company) saith, that Arthur Vaughan and Edward Vaughan of Trererwyn were with the said mr. Kynaston, and that they came with him to Maesbrook, and returned with the said

faid mr. Kynaston towards his own house. And being asked, who were going to the rendezvous, or at Penny Park, he saith, John Hammon came in, and said, if he could be accepted by mr. Kynaston, he would go with them, and that Edward Edwards of Osberton, Thomas Rogers of Maefbrook, Philip Shelvock and Richard Hughes, and the smith's servant of Kinally, whose name he knoweth not, and some others, whom he knoweth not, or where they lived, were likewise in the said house, all which company departed upon the coming of Edward Edwards, servant to mr. Kynaston, as is above mentioned and declared by this deponent. And further he was not examined.

EDWARD OWEN.

H. MACKWORTH.

The deposition of William Barkeley, of Shrewsbury in the county of Salop, gentleman, Salop. aged 17 years, or thereabouts, before William Crowne, esq; justice of the peace for the said county, and Charles Benyon, esq; one of the justices for the town and liberties of Shrewsbury, who deposeth as followeth:

THAT upon Thursday the 8th day of this instant, the day that sir Thomas Harris was brought in, upon communication with two of his fellow scholars upon the discovery of the plot, said, that mr. Thornes the elder, he verily believed, was one of them, and on the friday morning following, this deponent hearing that sir Thomas Harris was brought, as also the said mr. Thornes, the deponent answered, that it was not otherwise likely, but that his uncle, the said mr. Thornes, should have a hand in it; and the reason why this deponent said it was, for this deponent being at his grandmother's, the lady Corbet, about half a year ago, where the said mr. Thornes was there present, and upon conference with this deponent, calling him roundhead, the said mr. Thornes said, he hoped e're long the cavaliers would have the head. And further deposeth not.

WILLIAM BARKELEY.

WILLIAM CROWNE.

CHA. BENYON.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning.

THE designe was thus layd: A councill erected in London, consisting of earles, lords, gentry, lawyers, and divines, who have interest in all counties. The persons cannot name, but have a care of Strafford, Earle, Pofromor and Vaughan, lawyers, who designe all things. Persons employed are sworne not to discover any of them, and seldome any of them know more then one, and those hardly one another. They sitt sometimes in the Temple, and sometimes in London. The first care was, to fix in every countie some considerable and active persons; this don, then to provide armes; which don, then to treat with some persons of the army and late parliament party; which C. Grey, sir H. Benet and Brown, were ordered to doe. The account they gave was, that the levellers would engage, and Fairfax with his party by States i l d o m a n. Harrison, sir Charles Howard, sir Arthur Hazelrigg, and all that gange, with many of the Anabaptists, which Char. Stew. told mee. Now nothing but execution, which by some meanes was delayed, at which Ch. Stew. was impatient, and on severall expresses brought by C. Maning, Seymore, J. Trelawny, and Ross, and by Co. Pofromor, he sent Wilmot, Armourer, one mr. Halsey of the countie of Lancaster, and mr. Horwood of Oxf. &c. The Savoy is the rendezvous, and Chafe's in Covent Garden. Hen. Seymore, Progers, Denham, play the courtiers; the ladies Thin and Shanon have their part, to carry letters, and goe up and down on errands. Ch. St. with Ormond and Blage, goe into Zealand. The duke of York prepares in France for the West, Ch. Stew. for Kent, or the northern counties. All letters are to Hyde. Wilmot goeth to London, and so into the north with Armourer. The Earl of Shonbergh raiseth 2000 foot in Germany, pretending for France.

For the countie of Devon, sir Tricourteny, sir H. Polarde, &c. engage for 3000 foot, and 800 horse. Sir Tricourteny, sir H. Tichbourne, Jepson and Sanbarm engage with Wiltshire, Dorsett and Somerset, to carry 1500 horse to sir H. Lendol. For Wales, earl Carberry, lord Sherbery; in Salop, earl of Shrewsbury, lord Nieuport, sir Vincent Corbett, sir H. Thin, sir Tho. Hares, &c. Midland counties, lord Will. Parham, sir William Compton, sir Robert Willis, sir Thomas Littleton, sir M. Hubevairt, sir Richard Paque, sent over to them, sir Thomas Mackworth, earle of Oxford, earle of Northampton. County of Worcester, Coventrie, Sam. Sands, Packington, sir Talbot Handring, Tonthet Counts,

A. D. 1655. Counts, &c. Kent, lord Tufton, sir James Peyton, Thornill, sir Ja. Many Brochman, Washington, Judge Heath's sonn's, Hales, and scarce one out.

Cressett r m f s of Armourer, mr. Philips of Wilmott, you must be in apprehending as n m y lu ft mr. Davision I forgott, and let all be mentioned in the summe; burn all for a good reason, which for my oath I cannot tell you.

There is one Towte at Feversham, the searcher at Dover, corresponding with captain Pain at Bolleyn, convey your enemyes to and fro.

Letters are sent often in covers to mr. Booth at Calais, mr. Boove in Zealand, Shaum and Hawkes here.

J. Whitelock to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxv.
p. 205.

I N observance of your order, I have sent up mr. Rooks, the owner of that house (the order described) neer Margetts in Thanet, where I have quartered a party of horse, who scoure the coast constantly every high water. We have likewise searcht all the houses mentioned in his highnesse order, but found no person that we could any way judge to be suspicious in them. We have only two persons in custody; the one named mr. Levin Bufkin was taken in mr. Rooke's house, whose kinsman he is, and brother-in-law to major Boys of this country, who was formerly deputy governor of Dover Castle for the parliament; upon whose request I make bold to detain the said Bufkin here, and shall give you a farther account both of him and the other, if their examinations afford any thing worth your notice. This is all at present from,

Canterbury, April 9, 1655.

Sir, your willing servant,

J. WHITELOCK.

Commissary general Reynolds to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxv.
p. 214.

I Have herewith sent the depositions taken in these parts concerning the late designe, which is to be thence collected more generally laide than is yet discovered. There are very many persons fled from their houses, and by a former oath of secrecy, such as do sweare, judge themselves absolved, especially where it makes against themselves, the simplest countryman being lawyer enough to know the little difference between treason and misprision of treason. Sir Thomas Harris hath made an overture to discover his knowledge of the plot upon hopes of pardon, which I durst not assure, or give him assurance of my promise; but if it be judged fit, mr. Gilbert (a godly preacher in this county) will draw forth the whole upon such a promise, or if nothing of his owne confession may make against him upon a triall, he was propounded by a freind of sir Thomas Harris's to go to him, but his unwillingnes to undertake the employment without some hopes of a pardon to answer his expectation hath delaied for the present such an assay: until it be knowne, whether you want cleare information of the plot, without torture, or hopes of pardon, it will not be confessed by any, who know the bottom of the designe.

Sir, I received his highnes command from you, and shall in obedience thereunto bee in London (if God permit) on thursday; in regard I come not post, it will not be sooner, and I hope it is soone enough. Although I should equalize any of your messengers in hast, when I am commanded, yet I am well content to go soberly, when I may be permitted by my busines. I hope things are settled enough at present, but the affaires of these parts will deserve consideration. Dissatisfaction and disaffection are words hard enough. I shall not detaine you any longer, but humbly kissing his highnes hands, and beseeching the Lord long to continue him a nursing father to the good people of the three nations under his highnes happy government, and a terrour to all his enemies, I take leave, and remaine,

Salop, Aprill 9, [1655.]

Sir, your humble

and faithfull servant.

J. REYNOLDS.

Nieuport,

Nieuport, *the Dutch ambassador, to the protector.*

To his most serene highness the lord protector of the commonwealth of England,
Scotland, and Ireland.

THE subscribed extraordinary ambassador of the lords the states general of the United A. D. 1655.
Provinces hath lately received especial order of the said lords the states general, Vol. xxv.
whereby it is desired, that he should use his best endeavours to obtain from his most p. 219.
serene highness the same protection for some of their subjects, as merchants and factors
residing here in London, and being members of the society of the entercourse, as they
have always enjoyed under former governments; or that at least nothing may be decreed,
order'd, or innovated to their prejudice, 'till his most serene highness and the said lords the
states general do both consider and agree, concerning the court of the merchants adven-
turers in the said United Provinces, and also of the said society of the entercourse here in
London: and beseecheth therefore most instantly, that it may please his most serene
highness seriously to ponderate the contents of the annexed petition, and graciously to
order, that the soldiers quartered in their several dwelling places may be removed, and that
those, that are charged with the collection of the last assessment and parish offices, being a
meer novelty, and never practised before, may be discharged thereof; assuring his most
serene highness, that no such proceedings are used in the said United Provinces against
any of the people of this commonwealth. Given at Westminster, this 4th of April,
1655.

To the most serene his highness the lord protector of the commonwealth of England,
Scotland and Ireland.

The humble petition of the merchants of the entercourse born in the United Provinces of
the Netherlands and their factors, residing in London.

Sheweth,

THAT by several treaties between this nation and the princes of the Netherlands and Vol. xxv.
their successors (chiefly that of ann. 149¹.) the petitioners have been exempted from p. 223.
all personal taxes whatsoever; and being assessed amongst others, immediately relieved
by privy seal and otherwise, 'till these late times, notwithstanding the several changes of
government in both countries.

And the merchants adventurers of England residing in one town of the Low Countries
have likewise enjoyed the same privileges and immunities, yet in a more ample and larger
manner, they paying nothing at all for importation of their cloth; and all other English
merchants (not free of that society) living in the same countries and elsewhere are treated
equally with the natives thereof, and have been always protected in their persons and estates,
notwithstanding the wars; whereas the petitioners living in London, as also all foreigners in
this commonwealth pay double custom of their goods and merchandizes exported, and one
fourth part more, of goods imported, than the natives, besides divers taxes to the city
of London, from the which the natives are exempted. This being indeed the ground
of so long continuance in exemption from personal taxes, they are most confident, that
your highness will not suffer they shall be abridged thereof, but rather continue your favour
towards them in relation or respect of the late reunion between both states; but if your
highness were pleased, they might be used in all respects equal with the natives, they
would deem themselves happy, and willingly do as they do, which would be but equity.

That some of the petitioners have been lately chosen collectors of assessments and parish
offices, a novelty never practised before, and impertinent, to impose on foreigners, that know
no more how to behave themselves in the due execution thereof than meer strangers.

That the petitioners are likewise molested anew, by quartering of soldiers on them, for
non-payment of arrears of assessments, how unequal soever (if due) imposed on them.

The petitioners finally present themselves and their case to your highness, and do most
humbly submit their said claim to be examined by your highness and your council, to
stand and fall as shall appear from the treaties *ex una & altera parte*, and all practice and
usage all along on both parts; and humbly beseech your highness's protection, clemency
and justice (according to the said entercourse, and the several confirmations thereof,
'till these later times) against any rigorous proceedings against them and their factors,
in relation of assessments or otherwise, 'till the affair be fully understood and determined
by your highness and your council; and that in the mean time such soldiers, as are
quartered on the petitioners, may be immediately withdrawn.

And, as in duty bound, they shall ever pray, &c.

VOL. III.

4 Y

A letter

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning to Secretary Thurloe.

April 10, 1655.

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxv.
P. 227.

BY the last post I sent you an answer to yours by the former, and was faine for want of the cipher I desired from you, to send my man purposely to Dunkirque to put itt into the male; as also I am this, and really I dare not write soe much as I should without itt; yet, sir, much I must adventure, being of the present season. I am glad, and much rejoice in the late signall mercyes of God, which doe confirme me in my resolutions of being steadily your most devoted servant; and I humbly thank you for your kinde expressions and assurances to me. Sir, not to interrupt your most serious thoughts, at present take this account; the last post's newes soe startled the gentleman I last mentioned, that he resolved on as secret a retrate to his German quarter, as was his flight from thence; and accordingly on thursday last he tooke his journey, and left all but a servant or two in these parts, with a charge that we should remaine private 4 or 5 dayes longer, and then with privacey take our journey to him; but, sir, this day is come an expresse from the midland and associatt counties, with some offers to him, if he will immediately head a party there, which I know he is ready and very desirous to doe any where and on any termes. Therefore it behooves you to be most carefull, and all the hints I shall at this time give you of it is, that Willoughby of Parham, Oxford, sir William Crompton, sir Richard Willis, and sir Thomas Litleton, are the most eminent relied on. Faifax is much exclaimed against, as that he hath not performed and kept his promises in any thing. These hints you may make use of with much confidence, and assure yourself I have not, neither ever will I write you any fillable of an untruth. This packett you will find letters sent to make as if the king landed at Ostend from England, and of divers others which are still there, and only meant as a blinde. Now I conceive you ought to use all care that may be to apprehend Wilmott, Dan. O Neile, and one major Armerer, who when your last post came were all in London, and as neere as I can guess, you may finde them at one mr. Markham's house in the Savoye, the lord Lumley's, or some of those places, which I know to be their haunts, and I am sure mr. John Denham, mr. Edward Proger, and mr. Henry Seymoure doe know where they are, and privy to their business; also one colonel Palmer, that went over with them, is in London. You will finde him at one Huntley's house by the name of John Wood over against the Horse-shoe Tavern in Drury-lane, or at his wife's, or one Jackson's, a farrier, near Strand Bridge. Sir, I write thus much, being I wishe a settled peace in my country; and since the Lord is pleased to cast downe one, that the other may be settled with peace, and the nation freed from dayley murthers; yett I am confident, by clemency his highness may gaine more freinds, then by force or by rigoure of justice. Now, sir, I have some requests in my owne behalf; 1. That you would make the uses proper for my letters, but keep them private, and never admit them to be publique, or any thing of them to be committed to the press. Next, as I have throwne myself into your armes, that you would have a care of my preservation. Then, that having expended much money, that you would speedily send me a supply; and if you have not by the last post, not to faile me by this; for really I am out above 200 l. in itt only, besides my ordinary expence. Next, that you would this time write to me yourself, and be very careful how you write, and if you have not by the last post, send me by this bills for money, your cipher and an unfuspicionable address for my letters to you, to some merchant in London, I mean under a cover to him, and address'd to you, by what name you shall appoint, but not by your owne. After this I will desire noe other trouble from you, but that your man every week give me notice of your receipt of my letters, and send me a newes book; only when you have any thing to command, then, that you mention it yourself to me in cipher. I will finde some excuse to attend hereabouts, till the next post after this, for your answer, and then will I give you notice of the receipt of yours with the cipher and bills, as also a punctuall address for your letters to me. Let the money you send me be made payable to one mr. John Clotterbook, but I begg your circumspection and care in the management of every particular, and assure yourself there is none shall and will more considerably serve you, than, sir,

Your affectionate humble servant,

HEN. MANWARING.

I pray, this weeke send your letters, one inclosed (only address'd for me by the name I now write sealed) and put into a cover, address'd for mr. John Botler, merchant in Dunkirque, the duplicate as formerly, to mr. Clotterbooke at Bruges; but the letter address'd to me, and inclosed only in a cover to him; for the last was directed absolutely

to him, soe that it was opened, and might have bin prejudiciall to me, had you not writt A. D. 1655. clandestinely. I pray, faile me not of a possitive answer by the next, being I only attend it, and let itt be full in every particular. I begg you excuse my hasty scribling, and take notice, that I forgott to tell you, that Linn, Bostorne, or Yarmouth are the chieft places aymed att.

Col. Ireland to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

THURSDAY last I met with captain Spillman at Frodsham in Chesheire, wheare I Vol. xxv. received his good assistance in the examination of coll. Werden, which heare inclosed p. 229. I have sent your highnes. My lord, wee adventured to take security of 2000 l. for his appearance before your highnes, or the councell, which we conceiving sufficient for the rendering of himselfe, wee were the rather induced thereunto by reason of the horses wearynes by the late marches. The rest of the gentlemen will be up this week, or the beginning of the next.

Yesterday I received government of Liverpool, whearin, as in all other trusts, I shall diligently waite for and observe all your commands uppon

Liverpoole, April 10, 1655.

Your humble and faithfull servant,

G. IRELAND.

MY LORD,

I have examined severall persons, which stand in some relations to the two Hallsey's, but can gett noe farther account concerning them, than what I have formerly sent upp.

The judges to the sollicitor general.

MR. SOLLICITOR,

WITH our respects remembered, wee being mett at Yorke upon this great affair, Vol. xxv. which occasions your coming downe, have thought fitt to give you notice, before you be knowne to come into the country, how our business lies here. p. 239.

Wee received the commissions at Yorke upon saturday last, with a letter from the counsell, to appointe our first meeting to sitt upon mounday now next coming; which, as the case then stood, and still standes, could not be donne, for the assizes not being then nor yet ended, the new commissions could not be medled withall for feare of determining the old, and soe have overthrowne the whole businesse of the assizes.

And secondly, because there was not, nor could be fiftene days betwixt the summons and retorne, as by law ought to be. And further upon the conference, which wee have had, we conceive it will be fitt for you to peruse the matter of fact, and then to consider of the whole businesse together, and then wee desire you to signifie your mind to colonel Lilburne, which we shall attende to know. So rest

Your freindes,

Yorke, April 10, 1655.

F. THORPE.
Rt. NEWDEGATE.
ROB. HUTTON.

The superscription,

For our worthy freind William Ellis, esq;
sollicitor generall to his highnesse.

Col. Rob. Lilburne to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

ACCORDING to your directions I sent to baron Thorpe, who came immediately and conferred with the other judges, and by this inclosed you may perceive how the case stands. Vol. xxv. p. 235. And I must tell you, I finde them all of opinion, that they cannot well proceed to any purpose before the next tearme overtake them: that is one reason; and indeed another is, as I observe, a doubtfulness, whether in point of law, this matter of facte can, according to law, bee declared by them to be treason. I am loath to say, they are doubtful, whether you have thoroughly weighed all scruples, or taken such advice as is necessary, that is to say, consulted with the judges in this weighty case, wherein if there should be any

A. D. 1655. any lamenes, or so much knottines, that the naile cannot bee driven into the head, it were better not to enter upon it in this way.

These and some other things I am goeing to conferre with mr. follicitor about, before hee come into this country, that if he bee not satisfyed with the clearnes of them, they rather advise his forbearance some time longer, then to appeare in the country, and not bringe thinges to a seasonable issue. I thinke to meet the follicitor at Bautry or Scruby on thursday, and to take mr. Barnarde with me, if he come to night, or to morrow by twelve a clocke, with such matter of fact as can bee made out against any of those rebells, and from thence give you a further accompt.

As for jurors, happily the law may give liberty to choose them without the liberties of this citty, both fact and act riseing in the county, and then we shall doe pretty well; but if otherwise, there shall bee no diligence or care wanting to picke upp such as are right; though I have given his highnes a hinte of the temper of the magistrates here, that are to doe that worke; and I am still doubtful some are in commission, for all the care you tooke, that are not only lukewarm, but indeed parties, against whom there are some informations; nor have you pitched upon some counsell, that I dare passe my word for, will bee cordiall to you in this affaire, and to put trust in any to act against their judgment, and that may betray such a cause as this in such a juncture of time, you may easily judge the consequence. Certainly mr. Shaftoe is not principled any manner of way for this worke, though I am loath to expresse it; but if you will have him, there is time enough to send to him. Mr. Hewly, I thinke, is well affected and ingenious, and I hope will doe well; but then you must put him out of commission. Your list of prisoners will be much enlarged, and many besides that are fled will be proceeded against. If you please to send an expresse in answer hereof, happily it may reach the follicitor or mee at Doncaster on friday, and from thence we may send to barron Thorpe to meet us peradventure at the high sheriffe's, that we may consider altogether a little further of this weighty matter, wherein if we should be foiled, we had better do nothing. But this take for granted, there is no intention to proceede until fifteen dayes summons. What the judges will doe in the interim, I know not. Since my writeing the former part, mr. Barnarde is come, and I have been with the judges with him, and have considered of sending him to morrow to Grantham, to give the follicitor an account of the judges opinion and advice, from whom I doubt not but you will hear speedily, and then may direct further instructions, as shall be thought fit, wherein there may be noe loss of time, either as to mr. follicitor, or mr. Barnarde; for if the follicitor send an expresse to the judges, and give advice to them to issue out precepts, it will be done; but I heartily wish, whoever is intrusted in this matter, may be thoroughe paced. I remaine

Yorke, April 10, 1655.

Your very humble servant,

ROB. LILBURNE.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg, to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

Vol. xxv.
p. 247.

HAveinge received copies of a remonstrance and petition, lately presented to your highnes by some few disaffected merchants and apprentices, scandalously charging mee (as a corrupt and seduced person) to have infringed the rights and privileges of the company of merchants adventurers, and to have introduced an arbitrary power over them, for noe other reason, that I know of, but onely because I have truely (and when I was by them enforced, except I would be false to my trust) remonstrated unto your highnes the misdemeanors and pernicious practices of some of them and their party, I find myselfe necessitated to appeare in this publick manner, to wipe off those aspersions, where-with my adversaries have taken the boldnesse from some encouragment they have had, to bespatter me even in your highnesse's presence, most humbly offeringe the inclosed answer for my just defence before your highnes; and desiringe justice for my due vindication, which, I presume, my faithfull services to your highnes and the commonwealth, ever since I had the honor of that employment, will merit for me; as I shall most chearfully submit to your highnes censure, if I be found guilty of what is charged upon me by those remonstrators, whose actions and practices bespeake the good affection and dutiful obedience to your highnes, they so much boast of, in part set forth in the annexed narratives of their deportment, which I humbly beg your highnes will please to take into your consideration, together with the answer, which the well affected merchants of the company at Hamburgh, in duty most humbly by the company at London tender unto your highnes, to clear themselves of the scandalous untruths charged also upon them by those remonstrators.

Cravinge

Cravinge pardone for the trouble of this diversion, to which those disaffected men and their abettors have enforced me, I shall waite your highnes pleasure, and sincerely approve myselfe, however I am rendered by my adversaries for it, A. D. 1655.

Hamb. April 10, 1655.

Your highnes most humble

and faithfull servant,

RICHARD BRADSHAW.

Mr. attorney general Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

I Conceaved it necessary, as often as occasion was offered for conveyance, to give you an accompt of our proceedings here. Yesterday wee spent the whole day in agreeing against whome proceedings should bee, for what offences, and in what manner; the result whereof you will see in the list inclosed. Diverse of those, which wee received from you, were and are at large, whome wee intend to indict, and to proceed against them to the utlary. Some of those in your list are not soe much as knowne here, their names nor persons; soe as those wee are necessitated to omitt. Others though wee finde in prison here, yet wee cannot prove any offence against them in this county; but they were sent hither by the souldiers; and the offences (if any) were committed in the county of Dorset. Others wee finde so inconsiderable in their persons, judgments, and estates, as that by consent of the justices of the peace (who have been very active in preparing evidence, and assisting us with their best advice and direction) and the officers of the army here, wee have thought fitt not to proceed against them, but rather reserve some of them for testimony, who accuse diverse persons, that denyed themselves to have been in this action; and wee have in the place of those omitted, putt in diverse others, who by consent of the justices of peace and the officers of the army, are agreed to bee sturdy and notorious offenders, and that it were a good service to quit the country of them. Wee did likewise conceive it necessary, though we could have proceeded against all for treason, yet to make examples of all sorts, some for breaking the goale, and thereby letting free many felonious offenders; others for Burglaryes, breaking houses, and taking away horses; others for robbing upon the highway; others for treason; and others, if the evidence will come to it, for misprision of treason. The indictment wee have agreed; it was left with mr. baron Nicholas, who hath appoved of it likewise; but I am afraid of my lord chief justice. Wee expect the judges here this night, and wee are ready for the proceedings to-morrow. I have not farther to trouble you, but to subscribe myselfe

Your very humble servant,

New Sarum, April 10, 1655.

EDM. PRIDEAUX.

Inclosed in the preceding.

SIR,

THE grand inquest are now examining the witnesses upon the indictment against Robert Mason, Thomas Curre, John Deane, Gabriell Pyle, John St. Lowe, sir John Moore, and John Kensley; and Deane is to bee tryed this afternoone, if the grand Jury finde the bill. The evidence appears to bee very full on this bill also. The grand jury were all fully satisfied on the former bill, and brought it in, in a very short tyme. Vol. xxv. p. 249.

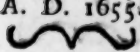
The protestants of the vallies of Piedmont to monsieur de Servien, the French ambassador.

MY LORD,

WE have newly received that, wherewith your excellency hath had the goodness to honour us, bearing date the 18th of this instant, and have hearkened with all respect to the learned discourse, which the gentleman your secretary hath made unto us upon it. We do adore divine providence, which hath put into the hearts of many potentates to take pity of us, and to lay balsam to our wounds: above all, we cannot turn our eyes towards that great and most christian monarch, who doth vouchsafe to mediate to his royal highness, for our re-establishment, without admiring the glittering and heroic virtues of that fine rising sun, confessing that all christendom, and we especially, have great cause continually to pray to the divine majesty, that he would be pleased to dissipate all clouds and confusions, which may overcast and obscure it's fine aspects, and all the ill and bad

VOL. III.

4 Z

A. D. 1655.  bad conjunctures, which may divert the sweet influences upon our hemisphere. There is nothing in the world, which we love so much as peace, and nothing, which we do more religiously observe, than the obedience due to those, whom God hath set over us. We do believe, that the rebellion and disobedience against the higher powers cannot be followed but with divine malediction, and that those that are guilty of it ought to be had in execration with all good souls. In this opinion we should judge our selves unworthy of theirs, if we were fallen from our obedience, as we are charged in the patent of amnesty, which hath been presented unto us. Against which we do always protest before God and the world our innocency, having not a drop of blood, which we are not willing to spill for a pawn of our fidelity and obedience to our prince. Although that in the same amnesty which the clemency of his most christian majesty hath procured of his royal highness in our behalves, we do see many conditions built upon some presuppositions, which cannot be allowed of, when things shall be nakedly laid open, hoping that they will not make many ill impressions upon the mind, since that we can protest before God and his holy angels, that it is with a very great regret, that we were forced to take up arms to oppose those, who against his intention have burnt our houses, and so strangely desolated our families, and to endeavour to turn them out of the inheritances of our fathers, which their ancestors did get with so much pains, and as well as ourselves, sweat blood to support all the charges; protesting that it was never our intention to take them up against his royal highness, and that we are ready to change them into *mattocks*, if it pleaseth the goodness and equity of his royal highness, to remit all things to the same condition, wherein they were put and preserved by his most serene predecessors of glorious memory, as he was pleased to promise us by the decree which he granted unto us of the last of September 1653, which is likewise all that we demand, having never had the presumption to proceed any further. There is only required, that some persons of integrity may be had to judge thereof at the reading of the concessions; yea, of the testimonies, which all adjacent roman catholicks have given upon them, of the registers of the communalities, and all other publick acts and proofs, the most authentick which can be exacted, which we have often produced and remitted. We shall accept and receive with profound respect, whomsoever his majesty shall be pleased to depute for that end; and we shall earnestly and humbly pray, that all things may be examined at the meeting of the lords ambassadors of all other powerful sovereigns, who do us likewise the favour to interest themselves, and to interpose for us, without the participation of whose counsel we are not at liberty to do any thing, not being able first to resolve to accept the habitation only in the territories named in the patents, which are newly communicated unto us, wherein the same was never restrained, whilst that the same is forbidden us in many other territories, where we had always equal right and usage, nor to deprive us of the right legally obtained to rebuild several churches, which can in no wise be justly disputed with us, and yet forbidden in the said writing. We do therefore most humbly beg, that time and place unsuspected may be appointed, where we may safely confer with the lords the mediators, give them to understand our ancient rights and privileges, to which we have always held, and do still hold; and the great hurts, which we pretend to have received against the intention of their R. H. of whose goodness and clemency we have such a persuasion, that we are assured, that they never had an intention, that we should be so dealt withal; leaving the decision of all to the said mediators, and passionately desiring nothing more, but that we may peaceably serve God and our sovereigns in all fidelity and humility; praying for this effect most humbly and most earnestly, as much as is possible, that his most christian majesty would be pleased for the love of God not to desist from his worthy undertaking, till that business be first known and decided. He will receive thereby glory before God and the whole world, and we will not cease to pray for the prosperity of his sacred person, of his states, his arms, and his royal house, and for that of your excellency in particular.

My lord, we do give you infinite thanks for all your good care, and do pray you to press and hasten this good work; but so that there may be more safety for the following treaties, than there hath been hitherto; for there was never yet any conference for a truce or peace since the beginning of these troubles, but at the same time they did endeavour to surprize us; and no longer ago than yesterday, whilst that your secretary made a great instance to have on the one side all the chiefeft and the most of our people to speak unto them on the behalf of the king and your excellency, they did all that they could on the other hand to endeavour to destroy what was left of ours, and to burn the remainder of our houses.

For conclusion of this present, we are ready to accept with all possible acknowledgment the peace, which the clemency of his R. H. doth agree unto us, through the efficacious interposition of his most christian majesty, provided that such things may be observed and kept, which his said majesty and the lords ambassadors of other powers, who do interest themselves for our good (after we have been heard) shall judge just and equitable; and

and to this end, we do humbly beg again, that time, place and means may be given us to A. D. 1655. confer with them, which we do also hope to obtain through the favour of your excellency, since we are your excellency's

April 21, 1655. [N. S.]

Most humble and most obedient servants,
The expelled of the valleys of Piedmont,
professing the reformed religion, and
for all.

Bordeaux to his son, the French ambassador in England.

MY SON,

I SAW this morning his eminence, who doth expect with impatience the return of the Vol. xxv. exprefs, which he sent unto you, to know how that hath been received. He told me, that p. 293. he believed you would finish the peace, in regard you had orders to desist from all that the court here stood so much upon; and as I have formerly writ oftentimes unto you, you are not to break with precipitation, and that you should delay all that you can, to come to a good conclusion. This did the earl of Brienne likewise assure me, that it would make more for the advantage of France, and you would gain more honour in delaying your business than by breaking off on the sudden.

I saw this morning monsieur Ariste, who told me, that you have two orders, the one, to conclude or to break suddenly, the other, to demand audience to take your leave, in case of a rupture; and in regard I did represent unto him, that they might delay you for some time before, they gave you your audience, and that his eminence had told me eight days ago, that if so be they did refuse to give you audience, that you were to come away without leave, after you had declared it to your commissioners; the said monsieur Ariste did then declare unto me, that it was very true, you had an order of the king sent you to break, and another order to demand audience to take your leave; but in case they did deny you the said audience, that before you were to take the resolution of your departure, you were to give advice thereof, to have the order of the king upon it, which is to be your sole discharge. I believe you will be no more troubled to come to these extremities, since that your treaty is renewed, and that the conclusion thereof is so much desired by this court.

Paris, April 21, 1655. [N. S.]

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

IT seemes colonell John Birch, after the dissolution of the last parliament, was pleased to Vol. xxv. cause severall transcripts to be made, as the house had agreed for the settlement of the p. 269. government, which, as I am informed, were to be spread where he thought fitt to dispose of them; amongst which there was one member, that served for Ireland, who was dissatisfied, brought one of them, and lending it to an officer of this army at Chester, who not well understanding what the intention of it might be, gave it unto me, and shall keep it by me. There was severall bookes, the subject whereof was dissatisfaction to the present government. The person, to whom they were sent, was so honest as to informe concerning them, and so I have suppressed them. I should be very glad to heare, that this late signall appearance of the Lord might have this effect upon us all, to teach us to walk in more humility and dependence upon him, and with love one to another. I know not what is intended as to affairs in Ireland; but in particular as to that of reducement, if any thing of that nature be intended, and not suddenly resolved, it will be a great prejudice to the state, and a great inconveniency to the particular persons, whose lott it will be to be reduced, some of the chief officers having lately sent to his highness for my brother Cromwell's coming over, which hath long been by me expected; and let men say what they will, he will find welcome here; the sooner he comes the better, for I have some thoughts, if the Lord blese me and my dear wife with health, to march into the country, in order to the better settlement of affaires. I should be glad he were here before that time, as also what concerns us might be dispatched. Your care herein I desire, who am

April 11, 1655.

Your humble servant,

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

Mr.

Mr. Thomas Herbert, clerk of the council in Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABEE,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxv.
P. 273.

I AM commanded by the lord deputy and council, to acquaint you, that colonel William Eyres, who hath been now full 11 weekes a prisoner in the custody of the serjeant at armes, is (through his impatience of that restraint) grown very much distempered both in body and mind; and doth earnestly importune their lordships, that hee may bee either brought to a triall for what shal bee laid to his charge, or elle permitted (upon sufficient bayle) to follow colonel Venables in his voyage. But they, not willing to determine any thing concerning him, untill directions from his highnes bee given therein, their lordships doe desire, you would move his highnes and council in this matter, and procure that the pleasure of his highnes may bee signified, as to what further proceedings shal bee thought fitt to bee had against him, either as to a triall here, or for permitting him to passe to colonel Venables, as is desired.

There is now also in restraint (and upon the same account) one colonell Trefwell, concerning whom it is likewise desired, that his highnes commands might bee received, the gentleman being as desirous as the other to come to a speedy triall and determination in the matter hee stands charged with. For resolutions in both which cases, his lordship and the council here request your care and effectuall remembrance; and when obtained, that speedy intimation may thereof bee given. Not having further at present to trouble you with, I remaine,

Dublin, April 11,
1655.

Right honorable,
your most humble servant,
THOMAS HERBERT.

The examination of mr. Francis Smith, alias Carrington, taken before captain William Hubbert, at Leicester, April 11, 1655.

Vol. xxv.
P. 347.

THAT the said mr. Smith hath never seen mr. Moore (living in the dairy-house at Newstead in the county of Nottingham) save only twice; the first time that the said mr. Smith saw him was at the said mr. Smith's in Newstead house about six weeks agoe, and never saw him from that time, 'till sunday last, that the said mr. Smith remembers. And there being a new horse collar found in the house of the said Moore, and the said mr. Smith being asked, whether he knew the collar, or ever had seen it before, faith, he never saw it before sunday last. And it being further asked, where mr. Smith was about thursday the 8th of March, he the said mr. Smith at present doth not remember.

FRANCIS SMITH, alias CARRINGTON.

The city of NEW SARUM.

The information of James Trasey of Meere in the county of Wilts, tallowchandler, taken the 11th of April, 1655. before John Ivy and Francis Dove, gentlemen, two of the justices of the peace for the city aforesaid.

Vol. xxv.
P. 255.

SAITH, that upon friday before the insurrection was at Salisbury, he this informant was at esquire Willoughby's house at Knoyle, where there came in a gentleman, that had rode very hard that morning, his horse much sweating, who enquired earnestly for mr. Willoughby; and as soon as mr. Willoughby came down to the gentleman, he told him, that he had a letter to be carried to mr. Richard Greene, the younger, of Meere; to whom mr. Willoughby answered, here was a man, meaning this informant, should carry it, lest the letter should be delivered to any other besides young mr. Greene's hands: and this informant going forth of that room into a cellar, to hang up the candles, which he this informant brought in that morning, faith, that when he came back again, the letter was sent away by one, that must bring an answer, but who it was this informant knoweth not, whether by a messenger hired, or by one of mr. Willoughby's servants. And this informant doth verily believe it was one John Sheppard, formerly dwelling in Meere, that did bring in the letter into mr. Willoughby's house; but cannot speak that of a certainty, because it was a long time since that the said Sheppard was at Meere, in the

the sight of this informant. And this informant further saith, that the gentleman did not stay for an answer, but as soon as the messenger was gone with the letter, the gentleman took his horse and rode away again. And further this informant saith not.

Before us,
JOHN IVY.
FRAN. DOVE.

JAMES TRASEY.

Roger Hill to *secretary* Thurloe.

SIR,

I Presume, that mr. attorney generall doeth upon all occasions give you an accompt Vol. xxv. of our proceedings heere. I find noething to the contrarie, why all things should not p. 265. goe according to your expectation in the busynes we are now upon. We find in this place a great and full appearance, besydes the lord commissioner Lysle, the lord chief justice Rolle, baron Nicholas, justice Wyndham, mr. serjeant Glyn, and mr. serjeant Steele, there are of Hampshire, Wiltshire, and Dorsetshire, commissioners of oyer and terminer about twelve or thirteene. Heere appeared about twentie justices of the peace of this countie; three and thirty gentlemen, that were returned of the grand jury; three and twenty of them were sworne. I doe heartiely wish, that we had found here some of those that are accompted the most considerable persons, that appeared in the late insurrection, this being the place, where they shewed themselves. Such as we have heere, that we intend to proceed against for treason, are John Lucas, John Deane, Henry Zouch, Edward Zouch, Henry Lawrence, John Fryer, John Thorpe, John Kensley, and Edward Macke. The rest we shall indict for highwaymen and horse stealers. The evidence will not set them higher. Wagstaffe, sir Henry Moore, Thomas Momperfon, Robert Mafon, Boles, commonly called lieutenant col. Boles, Gabriel Pyle, sir John Moore, and about 9 or 10 more of the meaner sort, which are fled, we intend to indict in order to be outlawed. Some of that crew, whom we find will be good witnesses, we shall forbear to prosecute for the present. The proofes we find very lame, our busynes haveinge not bene soe well prepared for us, as it might have bene; we shall be the more carefull and industrious to make up what is short. I beleive, that many of the prisoners will confesse the indictments, and referre themselves to the mercye of his highnes. This is all the accompt he can give you at present, that is,

Sir, your most humble servant,

Sarum, April 11, 1655.

ROGER HILL.

Captain Collyer and his company that were sent down from you, are the most considerable witnesses we have in this place, and else where.

The grand jury have this morneing done their part, in finding the bill against John Lucas, Wagstaffe, and four more, that are to be outlawed. The evidence hath bene given to the pety jury against Lucas: it spent four houres, and was very cleere and full against him, who made a very meane defence. He desired counsell might be assigned him, but could not tell for what. I doubt not, but he will be found guilty by that jury within an houre or two, although I did not like some of the jurors questions.

At a tryall of oyer and terminer and generall gaole delivery, held April 11, 1655. Wilts.

| | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-------------------|---|
| JOHN Lucas, | — — — | for raising warr. | |
| John Deane, | — — — | for the like. | |
| John Kensley, | — — — | for the like. | |
| Edmund Macke, | — — — | for the like. | Confessed the indictment, and pleaded guilty. |
| John Thorpe, | — — — | for the like. | |
| Henry Lawrence, | — — — | for the like. | |
| John Fryer, | — — — | for the like. | |

Vol. xxv.
p. 257.

Judgment is given, but execution is respited for a little time, that his highnes pleasure be knowen, and because the sheriffe is to go with us, and cannot be present at the execution yet.

VOL. III.

5 A

John

A. D. 1655.



| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| John Lovelace, ———— | } For a robbetrie in the highway, and taking away goods and money, to the value of 7 s. 2 d. Richard Harebottle. |
| Thomas Sweete, alias Gamadge, | |
| Robert Hartford, alias Horwood, | |
| Sampson Pickfatt, ———— | |
| Margaret Gingell, ———— | A nagg 5 l. and a pack-saddle, Robert Younge. |
| | For bewitching Ellianor Lyddiard to death. |
| | 2. For bewitching Ann Beedle, so that she is pined and lamed. |
| John Woodward ———— | For two geldings, Richard Smith and John Smith. |
| John Dole ———— | A weather, 6 s. 8 d. Henry Turner. |

Robert Mason, late of Hungerford in the county of Berks, esq;
 Thomas Curr, of the same, gent.
 Gabriel Pile, late of New Sarum, in the county of Wilts, gent.
 John Saintlowe of the same, gent.
 Joseph Wagstaffe, late of New Sarum, esq;
 Henry Moore, late of Fawley in the county of Berks, knt.
 Richard Bowle, late of New Sarum, in the county of Wilts, esq;
 John Andrews, late of Tisbury, taylor.
 Thomas Mompeffon, late of New Sarum aforesaid, esq;
 Thomas Chivers, late of New Sarum, vintner.
 John Seamor, late of Compton Chamberlyn, Yeoman.
 Richard Green the younger, late of Meere, gent.
 John Cottrell, late of New Sarum, milliner.

The indictments are found against all these for treason, and will be proceeded against to the outlawry.

Sir Benjamin Wright to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxv.
p. 301.

YOUR letter of 15th of Feb. came to my hands but the third of this month. It hath layne longer then ordinarily on the way: by it I perceive, that your honor has received my severall letters, and of his highnes's favourable acceptance of my zeale and affection to his service, and to my native country; most pleasing and welcome newes unto mee. And therefore, obeying your commands, I write this, and will continue corresponding with your honor, unlesse I receive your order to the contrary, dureing my abode in this court; though I know, that I put myselfe into an assured danger of imprisonment, if not of looseing my life, in case any of my letters unto your honor should fall into the hands of these ministers, as in my former I have written you: but I depend and build my safety upon the promise your honor gave unto my brother, as he writt me, that his highnes would take me into his protection, and free me of any danger I might fall into. But my danger is, that before it can come to his highnesse notice, so suddayne a resolution may be taken agaynst me heere, that my head may be cutt off, before his highnes can have notice of my being in prison; and then, although he would take satisfaction for me, by cutting off other heades ther, none would be found to fitt my shoulders.

This, Sir, I leave to his highnesse and his discreete counsell's confideration, for don Alonso de Cardenas ther will not be backward, to search out what correspondent you have heere. What doth your honor thinke in sending to me his highnes letter of credencie? the which if you command me to keepe private, I shall not make it knowne to any man liveing, until I finde my selfe in danger of being imprisoned, or looseing my life, by some secrett command, as I have knowne some hath, being once suspected by this state for intelligencers.

As for your fleete sent out under the command of general Penn, it hath, as yow say in your letter, occasioned many imaginations and consults heere, whether it may be gone. Some say, to the island of Santo Domingo, others, to the Havana, others to Buenos Ayres en el Rio de la Plata, or to the island of San Lorenzo. These last is confessed will cause no breach, being beyond the equinoctiall line, but not the other too places, unlesse it be because they finde themselves heere soe weake, and soe environed with enemies on all sides, that they must passe by and put up any thinge that yow will doe against them. And although yow may have no intention to medle with ther plate-fleet, now dayly expected from the Indias, yet they dare not assure themselves therof; and certaynely, yf it be not come out of the Havana before they shall receive advize of your fleete goeing upon those coasts, they will not adventure to put to sea, wherby this king's affayrs will be mightely hindered, for all his hopes are upon the monies expected by the fleete. They have heere bin jealous of your sendinge your fleete to the West-Indias these many months, and so long since gave their orders to all the porte townes in the Indias,

to

to provide themselves with all things necessary for their defence, and to receive yow. A. D. 1655:
 Ought else they cannot doe; for shippinge to encounter with yours they have not, as
 supposing themselves the best Christians, they trust much in God's protection, hoping
 that yow will finde both windes, seas, and the Indians themselves redy to hinder your
 disembarking ther. The fleete, that yeerely useth to goe from Spaigne to the Indias
 is commanded to departe in all this month from Cadiz. In the meane time some advize
 may come of what your fleete hath attempted, and accordingly they will governe them-
 selves in ther designes. It seems yow expect from hence an extraordinarie ambassador. It hath
 bin said heere these many months, that the marqués de Leyden was to goe from Flanders.
 These people looseth themselves by delayinge too long, and I beleeve, that they are led
 away with some vayne report of an appearance of new troubles in England; for within
 these 3 dayes came advise from France, that the king of Scotts was embarked for England,
 and that Hull was to be delivered up to him, and Fairfax to raise an armie for him. Of
 this I thought fitt to give your honor advize, though I presume it is needlesse more then
 to lett yow know, that though these people be no Jewes, yett they live contentedly, in
 hopes of the coming of a saviour, for to free them out of ther many miseries, that
 they have plunged themselves into for want of good government.

They have now began their cortes or parliament; the 7th of this month was the first
 day of meeting in the king's pallace, his majestie present as usually, the secretary of the
 Reyno read the propositions, the which were to let them know, the great expence his
 majestie hath bin at these many yeeres, to defend himselfe agaynst his home and forraigne
 enemies; and that God had bin pleased to assist him for the retakeing from the French
 Barcelona, and other severall townes of importance in Flanders; and also of his want of
 monies to prosecute the warre, wherby to oblige his enemies to an honorable peace.
 Wherefore he hopes, that they would finde some meanes to assist him with the needfull;
 and that it might be with the lesse burthen possible to his poor subjects. Wee shall now
 soone see what course they will take to supplie his majestie's wants.

The swearing of the prince's was not in the propositions, as it was once resolved on.
 The queen, it seemeth, hath hindered it; yet her majestie proveth not with childe. God
 graunt shee may, and of a sonne, for their majestie's comforts, and good of their kingdoms.
 Within three daies they goe both to Aranjues, a house they have 7 leagues off. Ther
 they will remayne some 20 dayes, for the heates coming in, it is unhealthfull. In my
 former letters, I have given your honor notice of the imprisoning of an alcade de corte
 for severall fowle accusations layd and proved agaynst him; yet because he was a judge, the
 rest of his companions hath favoured, all possible they have bin able, his cause; but at last,
 by expresse command from the kinge, they have given a sentence, but not yett published,
 nor will be, till the kinge is gone out of Madrid to Aranjues; so wee know not certaynely
 what it is. The reporte is, that he is condemned to perpetuall imprisonment, and incapa-
 ble of any honors or publicke employments; the false wittneses, that he had made use
 of, to the gallies for their lives.

Sir, I must now beseech your honor to doe me the favour, as to present my most humble
 thankfulness to his highnesse for the letter he hath vouchsafed to write to this kinge in my
 behalfe, that satisfaction may be given me for what his majestie is owing unto me; the which
 said letter, beareing date the 23d of February, I received the 6th present; and after making
 don Luis de Haro acquainted therewith, and desiring his leave to give it, I gave it the
 7th into his majestie's hands; and I hope it will move him to command, that satisfaction
 be given me, whereof I shall give your honor an account, that you may know what effect
 his highnes letters doth worke with this kinge and his ministers. To your honor also I
 give most hearty and humble thanks, that you have bin pleased to procure the said letter
 for me; and I beseech yow to continue me in your favours. I am resolved to speake to
 all the counsellors of state, and to give to each one my just demands in writinge.

The difference 'twixt Spaigne and Genoua is not yet agreed on; and it is doubted,
 that they may at laste breake out into a warre. The ambassador speaketh of going from
 hence. The Portugueses maketh dayly incursions into this kingdome, and have lately
 carried away above fixe thousand head of cattle, great and small, out of Estramadura.
 He hath no armie of importance; so beseegeth no towne; neither have we souldiers
 sufficient in the frontiers to hinder him from making incursions both by Badaxos and
 Ciudad Rodrigo. Sir, being you command me to write, I finde that I am obliged to
 let yow know what here passeth, wherby yow may be capable of the inclination or disposi-
 tion of these people to his highnes good succes, though peradventure they have no great
 grounds for what they reporte; it is, that his highnes hath bin pleased to give liberty of
 conscience to the roman catholicks in England; that don Alonso Cardenas hath writt it
 to this kinge. It is not credible how great joy and contentment all men of all sortes and con-
 ditions have received therat, extolling his highnes, and praying for his good succes, and
 truly I thinke from their very heartes. And so doth, sir, &c.

Aprill 20, 1655. [N. S.]

THE

A. D. 1655.

THE former written is the copie of my letter to your honor, sent by the way of France, under cover to my brother Nathan Wright; but in regard yesterday came advice, that the French had proclaymed a warre agaynst England, and made an arrest on all English men's goods in France, I feare that my said letter may not finde passage that way. Wherefore I thought fitt to send to your honor its coppie by a ship goeing from Bilbua to London. I have little more to ad therunto, more then to lett yow know, that I have bin informed this day, that the differences 'twixtt Spaigne and Genoua are in a maner agreed on. God graunt they be; for it will be good for both. In my last I tould your honor, that I would visitt the councellors of state, as I have done, thinkeinge, that his majestie would have remitted his highnes letter to that councell, whether indeed it ought to have gone; but he hath remitted it to don Luis de Haro, to be seene in his junta, from whence I expect no good effect, beinge now 11 dayes since, and hath not bin seene, by my vissiteinge of them. I perceive, yow will receive no extraordinary ambassadour from hence as yett, and some other things not fit to trust to paper. I beleieve that yow are both upon your clofe guards; and I assure myselfe, that yow will make the best use of them, and not leave to honor with your commands

Your honor's most humble servant,

Madrid, April 22, 1655. [N. S.]

BENJAMIN WRIGHT.

Bordeaux, *the French embassador in England, to his father.*

April 22, 1655, [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxv.
P. 309.

IHAVE received within these two days your two letters of the 14th and 17th, and as many from the earl of Brienne, all which I intend to answer by his expresse, who shall go away to night or to morrow morning at the farthest, time enough to get to Paris before the post, who will bring you this. You will see by my letters, that I had pacified the noise, which the general seizure had occasioned, before ever I knew that it was taken off; and that I have accomplished, as well the orders of the court, as those of his eminence, in the conference I had yesterday with my commissioners, to whom I shewed the dispatches of the court, and especially that of his eminence, and gave full assurance, that although we should enter into a war, there should be kept neither English ships nor goods. This discourse was held in pursuance of a declaration of rupture made by them, to give me satisfaction upon the article of enemies, so that it cannot be attributed to meanness of spirit, but to generosity; and I believe I have acted according to the intention of my superiors in all the sequence of this accident, which hath delayed the conclusion of the treaty for some days; yet it is not so, that although this obstacle be removed, that the conclusion of the treaty can be warranted, but at least I have been able to see clearly into the designs of this government.

There can be nothing added to the protestations, which they made unto me yesterday, of the protector's inclination to the peace; however, I do not yet find, that their proceeding doth correspond with it; there is still some jealousy to be had of the business. I fear that the protector hath still a mind to delay us. We have brought it thus far already, there want now but two words to finish it, which my commissioners cannot contradict.

I was this night to have received a negative or an affirmative resolution, but it would be contrary to their custom, if the same were given me so speedily; and likewise I did not think fit to precipitate the execution of my orders, but to delay them for some time.

Capt. Unton Croke to *secretary* Thurloe.

HONORABLE SIR,

Vol. xxv.
P. 315.

IReceived yours at Exceter on saturday last, and accordingly repayred to Sarum to attend the judges, where I at present am. You were pleased to putt mee in hopes, that his highnes might bee intreated for the sparing of those 5 persons I wrote about, and promised me your assistance in promoting my request. Sir, I doe agayne intreate your intercession, and that if it be possible, by the very next post I may be ascertained, whether there is a possibility of their reprieve. One of them is Wake, 2 brothers, whose names are Colliers. I profess I have forgot the others names, but they are all 5 contemptible persons;

sons; yet by reason of my engagement, I cannot but continue my importunitie, that they A. D. 1655.
might bee spared. Sir, I am very tedious with you, but I hope you will pardon,

Sarum, April 12,
1655.

Honourable sir,

your very humble servant,

UNTON CROKE.

Col. Morley to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

PERceivinge by his highnesse letters to the justices of this county for the settinge of Vol. xxv.
watches, that the greatest danger was upon the sea-coasts, I gave private directions p. 277.
to John Mullet, an officer of the customes in this county, to search diligently in all
vessels for letters and papers, and more especially in any vessel, that should bringe over
from France one Rose of Lewes, who often goes betweene England and France, and is
suspected to be a papist; and this morninge I received a letter from Mullet with the se-
verall letters and papers heerwith sent you. Those that are open were opened by
him, for beinge directed to persons of greate honor and quality, I durst not have adven-
tured to have done any thing of that nature, haveinge no authority enablinge me thereunto.
The gentleman that brought the letters from France, I suppose to be a papist, and one
that is much employed by them. Whether the letters themselves may be of consequence
worthy your perusall, I know not, but cominge thus to my hands, I held it my duty to
dispatch them to you, as also mr. Anderton's examination, who will also attend you. I
beseech your pardon for this impertinent troubling you, and that you will please not to
communicate my letter. Soe I remaine

Glinde in Suffex, April
12, 1655.

Your humble servant,

H. MORLEY.

The examination of Robert Anderton, gentleman, taken before me April 12, 1655: Suffex.

SAITH, that he went out of England upon the eighth day of March last in a bark of Vol. xxv.
Rye belonging to one Keyes living in that town, and that he entered into 200l. bond p. 319.
with the officers there to appear at Whitehall before the lord protector upon summons.
He further saith, that he landed at Dieppe, and thence went the streight way to Paris,
where he was employed in making up accounts with some merchants there, as also to
attend sir Charles Hatton (there called the lord Hatton) for the signing of a deed for sale
of a small parcel of lands lying in Northamptonshire, which he not obtaining, the exa-
minate returned to Diepe the 7th day of this instant April, where he staid three days for
his passage into England. Being willing to take the first opportunity of returning because
of the embargo in France, he came away in a French shallop, and landed at Suffex the
10th of this instant April. He further saith, that it is believed by the English at Diepe,
that the embargo of the English vessels in France is like to be continued, and that this
French shallop was sent out as a coy duck to fetch in more company, which he is the
more induced to believe, because when the governor of Diepe had by proclamation upon
monday or saturday last declared the king's order for the taking off the embargo, the
lieutenant of the admiralty in that town immediately laid on a restraint upon all vessels
as well English as others, by order of the duke de Vendosme high admiral of France,
which restraint was to continue 'till 500 mariners were raised for the king of France his
ships, which the examine looked upon only as a pretence, because he did not see any
course taken for the present levying of men. He further saith, that the duke of York
was in Paris when he was there, and that he was in very great esteem with the French no-
bility and gentry; and that it was generally discoursed and believed in France, that the
king of Scots was residing with his sister privately in the United Provinces of the Low
Countries; and that the states challenging her for entertaining him, she denied his being
there. He also saith, that he received these letters from the lord Aubigny's servant
May about 8 or 9 days before he came from Paris, to be delivered as directed, and further
to sollicite the business about the honor of Aubigny with the duke of Richmond accord-
ing to the directions given him in writing.

April 12, 1655.

ROBERT ANDERTON.

Examined before me,
H. MORLEY.

VOL. III.

5 B

He

A. D. 1655. He also saith, that he heard the duke of Buckingham was come into England before the late insurrection, to endeavour his composition, and that he was now returned to Calais.

Copy of the indictment of the rebels at Sarum.

April 12, 1655.

Wiltsh.
Vol. xxiv.
p. 515.

THE jurors for the lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging, upon their oaths do present, that A, B, C, D, &c. together with a great number of other men to the number of two hundred to the said jurors yet unknown, as false rebels and traitors against the said lord protector and the government of the commonwealth aforesaid, not having the fear of God in their hearts, but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the devil; and their due obedience to the lord protector, and government of the commonwealth aforesaid, not in any wise regarding, but the same maliciously and despitely contemning, and the laws of England not at all weighing, nor the penalties therein contained in any wise fearing, but maliciously and devilishly imagining, contriving, and endeavouring to bring the said lord protector and government into great hatred, ill will, and contempt with all the people the commonwealth aforesaid, and sedition, rebellion, and a miserable and bloody war within the said commonwealth to move, stir up, procure, cause, and levy; and also maliciously, wickedly, and devilishly, rebelliously, and traitorously, devising, plotting, intending, and with all their strength endeavouring the publick peace and common tranquillity of the commonwealth aforesaid, to disturb, and to stir up and raise force against the said lord protector and government of the said commonwealth, for the subversion and alteration of the same. They the said A, B, C, D, &c. together with the said two hundred rebels and traitors to the said jurors yet unknown, the better to effect and accomplish their said most wicked treasons, traitorous conspiracies, imaginations and intentions aforesaid, the 12th day of March, in the year of our Lord 1654, maliciously, rebelliously, and traitorously, at New Sarum aforesaid, in the county of Wilts aforesaid, and in divers other places within the same county, did arm and array themselves with trumpets, swords, pistols, pikes, guns, powder, leaden bullets, and other warlike, invasive and offensive weapons; and themselves being then and there so armed as aforesaid, in a warlike posture, and in the manner and form of an army, maliciously, furiously, rebelliously and traitorously, did then and there gather together, assemble, ride and march; and wickedly, devilishly, maliciously, rebelliously, and traitorously, then and there did plot, contrive, and endeavour to raise, incite, and stir up the people of England to rise, and together with them, the said A, B, C, D, &c. and the said two hundred rebels and traitors, to raise arms and force against the said lord protector and government aforesaid, for the subversion and alteration of the same; and also that they the said A, B, C, D, &c. together with the said other two hundred rebels and traitors, to the jurors unknown, being so assembled in a warlike posture, and arrayed and armed as aforesaid, a publick, open, cruel, and bloody war against the said lord protector and government of the commonwealth aforesaid, then, that is to say, the said 12th day of March, in the year of our Lord 1654. aforesaid, and divers other days and times afterward, at New Sarum aforesaid, in the county of Wilts aforesaid, and in divers other places, within the same county, wickedly, devilishly, maliciously, and traitorously, then and there did prepare, ordain, and levy, to the great disturbance of the publick peace and common tranquillity of the said commonwealth, to the great terror, affrightment and damage of the good people of England, and to the imminent danger and hazard of the subversion, alteration, and overthrow of the government of the said commonwealth, and of the raising, causing, and procuring sedition, rebellion, and a miserable destruction and bloody war there, and within all parts of the said commonwealth, to the great peril, danger, and disquietment of the said lord protector, to the evil and most pernicious example of all others in the like case offending, in manifest violation and contempt of the laws of England, against the due obedience of them the said A, B, C, D, &c. to the said lord protector and government of the said commonwealth, against the publick peace, and against the force of the statute in such case made and provided, &c. And also maliciously, devilishly, and traitorously conspiring, plotting, compassing, and imagining the death, destruction, and utter ruin of the said lord protector, and also wickedly, rebelliously, and traitorously intending, proposing, plotting, and endeavouring, by all the ways and means they could and might, to promote Charles Stuart, eldest son to Charles the late King of England, to be king and chief magistrate of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and of the dominions thereunto belonging, they the said A, B, &c. together with the other two hundred rebels and traitors,

to the jurors unknown, being so assembled, armed, and arrayed, the 12th day of March A. D. 1655. 1654, at New Sarum in the county of Wilts aforesaid, the death, destruction and ruin of the said lord protector falsely, devilishly, rebelliously, traiterously, and of their set and forethought malice did intend, compass, imagine, and endeavour to execute and procure; and that they the said A, B, &c. together with the said other two hundred rebels and traitors unto the said jurors unknown, being so assembled, armed and arrayed as aforesaid, the 12th day of March, in the year aforesaid, at New Sarum aforesaid, and in other places within the aforesaid county, in further execution of their wicked, rebellious, and traitorous purposes, intentions, and imaginations aforesaid, wickedly, devilishly, maliciously, traiterously, and as false traitors against the said lord protector and government aforesaid, did with loud voices proclaim, declare, publish, and promote the said Charles Stewart, eldest son of the said late king, to be king and chief magistrate of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging.

Attorney general Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Received both yours of the 9th and 10th instant. Mack is already in the common Vol. xxxvi; goale, and the indictment drawne against him. The judges are all here. My lord p. 365. com. Lisle, baron Nicholas, justice Wyndham, serjeant Glyn, and serjeant Steele, came all yesterday; my lord Rolle not till this morning about nyne of the clock: untill his coming, it was not held convenient to have a publique meeting to agree upon the indictment, though serjeant Glynne approved it. What I doubted in my last proved true. After a pretty long debate amongst us all, that it might bee soe done as to satisfie all, it was at length agreed, it should bee only for leavying of warre; the reasons whereof I must acquaint yow with hereafter. I pressed to have it otherwise; but I must submit to those that were to bee my judges. Though they were not soe inclined; yet rather then to make a difference in this greate service, were contented to submit. Wee sate not till the afternoone, where was a good appearance of the commissioners and justices of peace; of the grand jury 32 appeared, whereof 23 were sworne. My lord chief justice intends to goe from us on fryday, and soe doeth mr. Justice Wyndham; but they say, they will meete us againe at Exceter: the rest intend to goe through. Collyer and Walfield (whome yow sent downe) have appeared before me, and been examined, and prove to bee soe materiall witnesses, as wee had been lame without them; and indeed I was necessitated to respite proceedings against some of the prisoners, or else I could not have applyed this rebellious action to the most active persons; for though I could in generall prove there was a rebellion, yet that such persons were actors in it, I could not have done it, but by plowing with their owne heyfars. But for the principall ones, we have not a thought of sparing them. For the highway men, they were soe cunning, as to confesse, they went after this party, thereby hoping to have drawne us on to accuse them for that, and soe not to have questioned them for the robbery; but having noe other evidence but their owne confessions, which they might deny at the tryall, wee thought fitt rather to proceed with them upon the other. For altering the manner of execution, it is not legally to bee done, but by warrant under the great seale of England; or if done by any other warrant, to bee pardoned afterwards. For mr. Harrison, it is true hee is here, and came downe at the same tyme wee did; and I feare one mr. Turner of the Middle Temple is likewise come; but not he, who was the late parliament man. I heare hee comes in relation to major Clerke, who is his brother-in-law. I cannot advise that to be done to mr. Harrison, as is mentioned in your letter; for I am most confident, hee can doe his highnesse noe disservice, hee is soe inconsiderable. At this instant, the grand inquest have found the bill against Wagstaffe, Lucas, Bowle, Mompeffon, Andrewes, and fir Henry Moore; and Lucas is now at the barre on his tryall. I rest hastily

Sarum, Martii [April] 12, 1655. past one.

Your very humble servant,

EDM. PRIDEAUX.

Wee have been nigh 3 houres giving evidence against Lucas; the length of it was occasioned, because wee were necessitated to make proove of the first designe, the outrages in Salisbury, the proclayming the king at Blanford, and the routing them at Molton. His owne examination proved and acknowledged was sufficient in itself; besides diverse other witnesses applyed it to him. The evidence was full; the court gave full and cleare direction in point of law; wee have adjourned, and expect a verdict this afternoone; and then goe on with the rest.

Hee produced noe witness, had little to say for himselfe, only pretended hee was forced thither. He prayed counsell, but none was allowed, there being noe cause for it.

If occasion bee, I pray excuse the postmaster here, for hee stayed by my command, to give yow this accompt.

Mr.

Mr. Ja. Nutley to secreary Thurloe.

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
 Vol. xxxvi.
 p. 366.

IN obedience to your command signified by your letter of the 10th instant, I humbly certifie your honour, that the lord com. Lisle, my lord chief justice, baron Nicholas, mr. justice Wyndham, mr. serjeant Glynne, and mr. recorder, sate yesterday in the afternoon, when the charge was given by mr. justice Wyndham (23 being sworn of the grand inquest) wherein after his apologie of this unexpected call to that service, in regard of the personall concernment of my lord chief justice and mr. baron Nicholas in the businesse in hand, he proceeded to declare the nature of the horrid and unheard of crime in question; which as well by the common law, and the statute laws both ancient and moderne, was adjudged treason to leavy warre against the chiefe magistrate; aggravating the same with the circumstances of tyme, place, and persons of the judges; the delay of justice, and the damage of the people, and taking away the commissions from the judges. Hee likewise declared the great obligation lying on the people to his highnesse, for directing this offence to be tryed by commission in the ordinary legall way, and not by extraordinary commissions, as hee might have done in tymes of such imminent danger; wherein hee manifested his carefull desire to mainteyne the lawes. This day the bill is found by the grand inquest against Wagstaffe, sir Henry Moore, Lucas, Bowle, Andrewes and Mompeffon; full evidence was given to the jury; and Lucas is at this instant at the barre, on his tryall for his life. I am called away, which putts mee on this hasty scribbling, which I most humbly begg your honour to pardon, who am

Your honour's most humble servant,

12 Martii [April] 55.

JA. NUTLEY.

Macke is to be indited according to your command;
 mr. attorney hath written to your honour about
 Harrison.

Serjeant Glynne and attorney general Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxxvi.
 p. 367.

AT the instance of my lord chief justice Roll, wee are to present a request on his behalfe unto his highnesse, and wee conceive yourselfe the fittest to offer it. Hee is verie much troubled at the losse of his horses, which were taken from him by the cavalier party lately here at Salisbury. Hee hath sent to the souldiery in a legall way to demand a restitution of them; but theire answer is, that by the law of armes they belong unto them. The chiefe justice hath spoken with captaine Croke (who is now here) about them; but hee sayes they are not in his power; and my lord Rolle pretends, that without having his horses, hee is not able to attend the service at Exeter. Sir, the thing is not of that value, that perchance other men would seeke for; yet since my lord chiefe justice thinkes fitt to presse for them, wee humbly conceive it may not bee unworthy my lord's taking notice of it, if hee see please as to give order for restoring them unto him, though his highnesse should direct some course for satisfying the souldiers for them. Having thus intimated his request according to our promise unto him, wee crave leave to subscribe ourselves

Sarum, 12 Marti [April] 1655.

Your very humble servants,

J. GLYNNE.
 EDM. PRIDEAUX.

Attorney general Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxv.
 p. 323.

IGAVE you an accompt by the ordinary post, what passed 'till one a clock this afternoon; since which tyme the petty jury brought in theire verdict, and found Lucas guilty of high treason. After that, wee proceeded against three in the list (against whome wee had noe evidence to convict them of this rebellion) for robbery; and the petty jury found them all guilty. Then the grand Jury brought in *billa vera* for treason against Robert Mafon, Thomas Curre, John Deane, Gabriell Pyle, John Saint Loe, and John Kensley; but as to sir John Moore, *ignoramus*. Of those, wee had only in custody Deane and Kensley. Deane was the only sonne and childe of his mother, a young man, whome some of the court and myfelfe had a mind to have made an object of your mercy, and for

for that purpose did even woe him to have confessed the indictment; but it seemes the London counsell had otherwise prevayled with him, though his friends both in private and publique were desirous of it, and pressed him to it; but hee standing it out, wee proceeded to tryall, and the same petty jury, that were upon Lucas, went on them, and found them both guilty of high treason, and so wee closed this day between 8 and 9 at night. My lord chief justice Rolle went hence this afternoon; his sonne and his daughter being come hither, he went to his owne house with them. Wee shall put all the rest, against whome we intend to proceed, in one inditement; and soe we hope to make an end to morrow about noone, and the next day to beginne our journey towards Exceter, and to lodge at Dorchester on the sabbath day. Indeed I am somewhat troubled concerning Macke; I have examined him, and can discover noe more then what he hath informed you, and doe really beleieve hee knowes noe more; but having your positive order to proceed against him, wee cannot yet resolve what to doe. Wee know hee was the first that came in, and a very honest man of this town, that hath been active and faithfull, is very pressing to preserve him, declaring that he thinks himself partly engaged, and the other hath merited, in that he hath discovered a greate number of pistols and other armes, which hee thinks were designed for mischief, and by his only meanes, hath gotten them into his possession. Mr. Hill and mr. Graves present theire service unto you. Our great work will be at Exceter, where the principall offenders are, and wee have concluded, as very necessary, to carry severall witnesses from hence and from Blanford to Exceter, where wee must bee able to make appeare the severall actings in those places, as to the whole designe. And I shall (with your leave) make bold with your steward to give charges to some honest poore men, that must be carryed thither as witnesses, as the serjeant at Blanford, who absolutely refused to proclaym the king, and some such like honest people. Wee have now (I hope) broken the ice, and shall with less difficulty (I also hope) wade thro' the rest. The confessions made by Macke cannot be made use of, because taken at London, and none heere to make oath of it; and I am afraid wee shall be at the like losse at Exeter by those taken by generall Disbrow; for wee make use of none but such as wee sweare a justice to the truth of them. I shall conclude, signeing myself

Your very humble servant,

Salisbury, April 12, 1655. 10 at night

EDM. PRIDEAUX.

Solicitor general Ellys to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

IN obedience to your commands, mr. Ayliffe and myselfe are come to Grantham, Vol. xxv. intending to have been att Yorke on friday next, but unexpectedly, about 12 of the P. 331. clocke this night, I received the inclosed by mr. Barnard, whoe was appointed to sollicite this businesse (whome I find to bee very ready and willing to promote your highnes service in all things) whoe having been upon the place, and spoken both with the judges and col. Lilburne, is able to give you the best accompt how your affaires stand. Therefore I have intreated him to repaire to you with all speed, knowing nothing more then what the inclosed and hee hath imparted to mee: but upon the litle time I have had to consider of matters, I doe not judge it fit for your highnes service, that I goe further northward, untill I receive your further commands, wherein if I erre, I humbly begg your pardon, it being don out of a reall intention for your service. And I am the more imboldened in it, because I perceeve the opinion of the judges to incline that way; and as present affaires now are, my beeing att Yorke soe speedily may doe you disservice, but cannot, as I humbly conceive, bee of any advantage. I humbly desire, I may receive your further commands att Grantham, which shall without dispute bee readily obeyed by

Your highnes most humble and faythful servant,

Grantham, April 12, 1655.
past 3 in the morning.

WILLIAM ELLYS.

Solicitor general Ellys to secretary Thurloe.

HONORED SIR,

HAVING received a letter from the judges, a copy whereof I have here sent you, the Vol. xxv. originall beeing inclosed in my letter to his highnes, I have resolved to stay att p. 327. Grantham, untill I receive his highnes further commands; for until the time of meeting
Vol. III. 5 C bee

A. D. 1655. be agreed upon, my going to Yorke (as I conceive) will be rather a disservice, then any advantage to the businesse. If 15 dayes time between the summons and the sitting bee of absolute necessity, as I perceave the judges opinions are, that it is, it wil bee worth consideration, how this businesse and the terme can agree together. In the next place I perceave by mr. Barnard (whoe hath been very dilligent and active in this businesse, and will informe you of all perticulars) as also by the judges letter, that the evidence will not be foe cleare and plaine, as I did apprehend it would have been. And if the evidence bee by those only, that were actors in the designe and plott, unlesse they have good assurance, that they shall not bee proceeded against, I doubt there evidence will be but lame, and not to bee relied on. If that bee granted, we have had late experience what Hudson did att the late high court of justice, whoe denyed all there, that hee had confessed before upon oath; neither will the testimony of those bee foe prevayling with a jury as persons not ingaged. The testimony in this case ought to bee very cleare and evident of the plott, designe, and intention, of those men; els a jury wil be hardly perswaded, that meeting togeather, though in such a manner as they did, and going away without effecting more, is high treason. The westerne busines seems to bee much more cleare, because of the proclayming Ch. Stuart, and the affront offered to the judges, and obstructing justice. If I have erred, either in my stay att Grantham, or any thing I have now written, I desire, that you would give it the most candid interpretation, that it is don out of my zeale to promote the publique service, and not out of any neglect of my dutie, which shall bee evidenced by the ready obedience that shal be shewn to his highnes commands, by

Grantham, April 12, 1655, past
3 in the moruing.

Your very humble servant,

WILLIAM ELLYS.

Col. Boteler to secretary Thurloe.

HONORABLE SIR,

Vol. xxv.
P. 335.

I WRITT formerly to his highness concerninge mr. Saint Loe, whome I sent by captain Horsington to have beene delivered to the keeper of the gaole here (but much to my admiration he carryed him up to London.) Here is as evident prooffe against him as against any man, for his being in the late rebellion; and he was once captain of some of the clubb-men in this county, a busines his highness well remembers, and not to be forgotten; and I have him here profecuted, and he will be utlawed this day. I heare captain Horsington keeps him at his house, and is a great friend of his. I hope his highness will be perswaded, that next to Penruddock there is scarce a man among them deserves less favour. I received his highness order just now about Harrison, and shall presently take care in it. I am, sir,

Sarum, April 12, 1655.

Your very very faithfull servant,

W. BOTELER.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

Vol. xxv.
P. 349.

THIS week's ordinary from France has braught in two letters from you, to say, of the 15th and 19th of March, which wer very welcom, in that they braught the good newes of disperfing the cavalliers, which were newly risen. Som letters from Paris advysed hether with much assurance, that the king of Scots was in Ingland in the head of 7000 soldiers; so that had not thes your letters come so sefonably, t'other newes had past for current al Itally over; nether wil al yet believ the contrary, so blynd ar men's judgments, to believ whatsoever sympathyzes with theyr affection, how unlyk foever it be unto the truth. I hav lykwys fully informed the great duk's court herof, and the improbability of such advys as is given him by others, who would put al Ingland again in a flam. God be thanked for this happy prevention. I hope the wisdom of his hynes and council wil so settle the militia in each county, that no more such alarums be given him.

The Spanyards pretend to set out about twenty fail of ships, and fifteen gallyes from Naples, but they go sloly forward. The lyk do the French from Toulon, yet this somer must bring both fleets into the sea. The Spanyard is only on the guard of his own dominions, which if he wer able wel to do, he were a myhty prince. Generall Pen's fleet maks them al hang down theyr heads. My correspondent at Naples has yet bauht but

but one horse, which he gives a hy commendation unto, being an yron grey of the duk A. D. 1655
D'oro's race. General Blak has sent a ship to take them in, but she is com a month too
foon. He has writ to the vice king about thes horses, on which letter ther is no dout
of theyr fire exportation. Seventeen dayes since generall Blak was at Trapana, a port on the
west end of Scicilia. I understand he intends to go once more to Tunis, to try what can
be don to mak a peace with that prince. He has sent two frigatts for Algier to buy
biskett. I am

Leghorn, April 23,
1655. [N. S.]

Your most humble servant,

CAARLES LONGLAND.

*The examination of Lancelot Brecknock, taken at Leiceſter, before captain Hubbert,
April 13, 1655.*

BEING examined, faith, that a party of horse, upon sunday laſt, being at Newstead Vol. xxv.
Abbey, he the ſaid Lancelot Brecknock was ſent for to the ſaid abbey, a boy coming P. 339.
from W. Moore to acquaint him, that the ſaid ſoldiers had broken open ſome doors, whereof
the ſaid examine had the keys, which keys the ſaid examine received from one
mr. Aſhton, ſervant to mr. Flower, and hath kept the keys for the ſpace of one whole
year or thereabouts, ſave only, that about a quarter of a year ago, according to his
remembrance, there came one Monſieur, ſervant to mr. Byron, and took away the keys,
and brought the keys again the ſame night to the ſaid examine's houſe. And the ex-
amine further ſaith, that when he firſt received the ſaid keys, that there were no trunks
in thoſe rooms; and when or how the trunks came there, the ſaid examine knows not,
nor what was in them. And further ſaith, that mr. William Byron, ſon to ſir Richard
Byron, formerly governor of Newark, hath been at London about ſix weeks ago, and as
he remembers, uſed to lye at the Green Dragon in Holborn; and what place in London
the ſaid mr. Byron is at now, he the ſaid examine knows not.

L. A. BRECKNOCK.

The examination of mr. William Moore, taken at Leiceſter, April 13, 1655.

BEING examined, faith, that about one or two of the clock on sunday laſt, being the Vol. xxv.
eighth day of April, a party of ſeven or eight ſoldiers came to Newstead houſe, the P. 343.
habitation of the ſaid examine; and the ſaid party enquired of the ſaid examine, what
gentlemen there were in the houſe, and the ſaid examine ſaid, there was not any; upon
which the party entered the ſaid examine's houſe, and ſearched every room of the houſe
in the ſaid examine's poſſeſſion, but found no man, neither any arms, only one trunk,
which they broke preſently open, taking nothing out thereof; and there being ſeveral
rooms in the houſe the ſaid examine doth inhabit, which the ſaid examine ſaith he hath
no intereſt in, the ſaid rooms the ſaid ſoldiers did alſo ſearch, wherein the ſaid ſoldiers
found only one ſmall fowling gun and a fauchion, alſo * ſome trunks, which they broke * Viz. three
up, and found in one of the trunks one new horſe collar, which collar they took along trunks.
with them, and ſo ſealed up the trunks again, taking nothing elſe out thereof. And
further ſaith, that he knows not whoſe the trunks are, or how long they have been in the
ſaid houſe; yet that he heard one mr. Brecknock, ſervant to mr. William Byron, ſay,
that they were the ſaid mr. Byron's, his maſter's; and that mr. Byron had the keys of the
ſaid trunks. And the ſaid examine being aſked, how often he hath been in the company
of mr. Smith, alias Carrington, ſaith, never above twice. As alſo, what other gentlemen
hath lately frequented that houſe, viz. Newstead Abbey, ſaith, that to his knowledge not
any, ſave only mr. Carrington, and mr. Gerrard, and mr. Copley. And further ſaith not.

WILLIAM MOORE.

*To the right honorable John Liſle, one of the lords commiſſioners of the great ſeale
of England, and the reſt of the lords commiſſioners of oyer and terminer and gaole
delivery for the county of Wiltes.*

The humble petition of Edmond Mackes of New Sarum, apothecary.

Humble ſheweth,

THAT whereas your petitioner was moſt unhapily drawne in to bee a partye in the Vol. xxv.
late rebellious inſurrection att Salisbury, for which offence of his hee hath ben nowe P. 419.
indicted before your honours, and upon his tryall hath ingeniouſly confeſſed the fact in
hopes

A. D. 1655. hopes of mercie. And whereas alsoe your petitioner the very same day as hee engaged in the rebellion, and in fewe howers after he went forth with the partye, returned back and rendered himselfe prisoner, and went and submitted himselfe to his highnes the lord protector, and made an ingenuous confession before him and his counsell, of those that were the chief actors in the designe; whereupon for the present he obteyned his highnes protection. But may it please your lordships (as your petitioner conceives) that since his submission to his highnes, some false information hath been given against him, that hee hath not made a full discoverie of all those, that hee knewe were actors in the plott, which your petitioner doeth heere in the presence of God utterly denye, and yf any such thinge can be proved against him, he is contented to dye without mercy, and will freely forgive those, that shall endeavour to prove it, whatever becomes of himselfe.

Hee therefore humbly desires your honors to take pittie upon him, and respite his judgment, and spare him from execution, and to make some favourable certificate to his highnes of the truth of the matter on his behalfe, of whome he hopes to finde mercye; which yf your honors please to graunt, both him and his shall ever bee bound to pray, &c.

EDMOND MACKES.

Mr. W. Stephens to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

Vol. xxv.
P. 353.

THIS daye his highnes's judges and commissioners of oyer and terminer and gaole delivery for the county of Wilts, did finish there bussinesse in this place aboute 8 in the morning, and are proceeded towards Exeter, where they sitt on wednesdaye next to distribute the same justice they have done heere. Fifteene persons are here condemned, whereof eight for felonie, and seaven for high treason; but two of the eight were in the rebellion, and did act therein, yett because the evidence laye clearer for felonie and taking (I mean stealeinge) of horses for that horrid designe, therefore they have been proceeded against accordingly. Upon the whole matter, indeed, judges, counsell, and juries have so acted their parts in the discharge of their duties respectively, that I believe (if his highness be not over mercifull) people will hereby be sufficiently terrifyed from the like desperate designs; yet some fit objects of mercy I conceive there are; and that it will be extended to them accordingly; but I hope without assigneinge any cause of relation, as tenants, or seduction of superiors, or primarie offences, &c. least remission to one offender prove an encouragement to many to become foe. And indeed severitie is now necessarie, otherwise all these proceedeinges will be but as a meere pageantrie. I forbear the nomination of persons condemned, or their crimes, because I knowe it will be presented unto you by a better hand, together with such as are thought to be objects of mercy, or will be foe upon more mature deliberation. It was not thought necessarie, that the gentlemen of Hants or Wilts, named in the two commissions, or either of them, should go into Devon, because there would be sufficient upon the place, and in the counties adjacent, for the discharge of that service; and upon that account, an excuse is granted to

Sarum, April 14, 1655.

(Right honourable)

Your most faithful and humble servant,

W. STEPHENS.

Mr. Thomas Bingham to major general Disbrowe.

NOBEL SYR,

Vol. xxv.
P. 357.

AT Sarum appeered most of the gentelmen in the commission. Had it not ben for the zeale of my lord Lisle, the recorder of London, and serjeant Glinn, I thinke not a man had been condemned, barron Nicholas lips being tyed fast as his condition stood; major Ludlow and mr. Heyley of this towne, two honest godly men, whispers me thus; here hath been such dabling and knavery in flubering over matters in examination against guilty persons, by mr. Tucker a justis of peace for Wilts, and by mr. Swanton the assise clarke, that many men were brought to tryal. Major Wansey and others of the militia officers told me, that those two justices made it their worke to extenuate offenders faults. Mr. Ludlow after the first day was left out, and not sent to, to examin persons which

which were in this great rebellion, one mr. Kitson and his brother, both in the rising, the one in custody and brought not to trial at all. His brother, as mr. Ludlow says, came lately from beyond the seas into this towne, was a secret agent. One of these brothers married Swanton's sister's daughter, the agent fled. This horse is poorly curried in these parts. The sherife examined divers brought in on high suspicion secretly in his chamber, the dore being kept shut. The friday before the rising, a servant of Penruddock's the elder went over a pas or ford of this river with a grayhound, and told a countriman in the way, he was going with that dog to the marques of Winchester, as a token from mr. Penruddock. This major Ludlow told me. The well affected of these parts his heighnes faithfull servants are sad, that so many ingaged knaves are soe past over, and not brought to punishment or to trial. These things I could not but send you. Here be divers of us in the commission do heartily beg, that none of these may be pardoned now condemned, but Macke of this town.

Reight honorabel,

New Sarum, April 14, 1655.

Yours faithful friend to serve you,

THOMAS BINGHAM.

Major and mr. Ludlow is but one person.

The superscription,

*For the reight honorabel general Disbrow,
one of his heighnes counsel, at Suffolke-
house in the Strand, these.*

Attorney general Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Yesterday the grand jury for this county having found another bill of high treason Vol. xxv. against Henry Zouch, Edward Zouch, John Thorpe, Henry Laurence, John Fryer, p. 361. William Willoughby, and Edmond Mack, in custody, and Thomas Chivers, John Seamour, Richard Greene, and John Cotterell, at large; the petty jury have acquitted the two Zouches, though the evidence was sufficient to have convicted them, especially Henry Zouch. They have likewise acquitted Willoughby, against whome we had noe evidence besides his owne confession; but Thorpe, Laurence, and Fryer, they have found guilty. It appeared upon the evidence, that Laurence, being inveigled by mr. Penruddocke, his landlord, came into the company of the rebels, and some other circumstances, which may render him capable of mercy. Edmond Macke acknowledged the fact upon his arraignment; and this morning all the prisoners, which were cast, received their judgment. Sir, wee are now hastening our journey towards Exeter, from whence you shall receive an account (as occasion offers) of this service; and I shall desire you will please by the next opportunity to send me directions, what shall be done with such as are in custody, and against whom we do not proceed; prisoners in the gaols of Exeter and in Somersetshire, and what prisoners shall be set at large after the assizes. It will be very necessary for you to consider of it, for the judges expect it from me. And having given you this short account, I take leave, and rest

Your very humble servant,

New Sarum, April 15, 1655.

EDM. PRIDEAUX.

I crave your excuse for this writing, being in very great hast, going out of towne.

Some of the prisoners for treason acknowledged their offences by petition before judgment, and the horridness of it, which were publicly read. Dean confessed, he had confessed it upon the indictment, but that mr. Harrison did advise him not to be guilty of his owne blood by confession.

I am necessitated to carry divers persons from hence to Exeter, such as are in prison and at large; for otherwise I shall want evidence to prove many of the prisoners there to have been in armes.

Those in prison here are bailed to appear at next assizes, if further evidence may come against them. The two Zouches are to give very good securities for their good behaviours for a year before they be discharged.

Attorney general Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

A. D. 1655.

Vol. xxv.

P. 415.

I Received yours of the 13th instant by this messenger. In the first place, I begge your pardon for the ill writinge of the letter I sent you yesterday, for it was done in fuche hast, as I had hardlie time to thinke of what I wrote, beinge soe late, as the judges were gone out of towne whilest I was givinge directions for Exon, and writinge that letter. Judgement was not given until yesterdays in the morninge, and then was done by mr. justice Windham. Att our first meetinge wednesday morninge, it was agreed, he should give the charge, and manage the triall against them, and mr. serjeant Glynn att Exeter, and mr. recorder at Chard, which I well liked, the greatest nomber and the worst offenders being in these prisons; my lord chiefe justice and baron Nicholas beinge unwilling to do it, in regard of the injuries and affronts offered them. Baron Nicholas is nowe with us, but my lord Rolle went away, as I have written you; and Windham went away yesterdays, but hath appointed to be at Exon. I have herewith sent you a copie of the indictment, upon which the traitors are convicted, which is the same I delivered you in London, only two clauses omitted, which you will herewith receive also, otherwise there is noe alteration. What passed at the debates upon the indictment cannot well be imparted in a letter; and the work being soe well done, upon this, I desire you will not enquire further after it, nor make any searce more of it, untill my return, and then it will be necessary you know it; but in the mean time, it cannot be any prejudice to his highenes nor the service. The maine reason why it went upon this single point was, because all agreed to justify that to be treason by all lawes; and yet, if you observe it, they are the very words of my lord's ordinance, and this hath past current, without dispute or objection against it. Mr. Nuttley is not heare with us, but gone to Exon, to prepare. Mr. Francis Swanton, and one mr. Richard Hill, a justice of the peace in Salisburie, have been very faithful and active in this busines, and were very much assistinge unto me, and I had greates helpe and directions from them. I yesterdays sent you by an expresse a list of all the prisoners, that were convicted and attainted, and their severall offences; but lest that should miscarry, I have herewith sent you another. I likewise with that sent you a list of such as were found by the grand jury, but were at large, and against whom we must proceed unto the utlawry. There is noe certaine time appointed for execution. The cause given out was in regard the sheriffe was to go into Devon with us, and it was thought fitting he should be present; but the true cause was, that his highnes pleasure might be knowne, which is desired may be as soone as his highnes shall think fitt. For a certificate concerninge the prisoners, I communicated that part of your letter unto them, and they are not willing to make any, in regard the letter was to me, and noe direction to them; but thus much I am to inform from them, that they conceive Henry Laurence to be a fit object for his highnes to shew mercie unto, being only a poor tenant to Penruddock, and drawn in by him, and a person of noe quality or ability to do mischief. I am also to represent Edmond Macke from them, as fit for mercy: it's conceived, ill offices are done him by some at Salisburie, yet some honest people spoke to me for him, to have spared proceedings against him, though mr. Richard Hill, the justice, were one of them. Your havinge signified my lord's pleasure in it, I believe you will have enough to interceed for the prisoners condemned. I shall say nothing for any of them. By directions, I send you copies of their petitions which were presented by themselves in court, and openly read; indeed I dare not of my self give a character upon those persons, as to be a guide to my lord's judgment; only thus much, I may say, by the report of all, that John Thorpe, who was formerly keeper of the prison there, and now active in breaking up the prison, getting away the prisoners, and breaking open the stables, and taking away horses, and riding along with them, is not fit for mercy; neither is John Woodward, a stubborne froweard man, active in this busines, and riding with them and the horses, for which he is convicted, were taken for that service. Willoughby was tried by the petty jury, and acquitted; and I could not but say, they did justice in it; for havinge married Green's sifter, who is to be prosecuted to the utlawry, he made it appear, he was desired by Green's mother to go after him, to bring him backe with him, whom he overtook at Blandford, but not prevailing with him, he returned that night to his own house. Besides, it was testified by the sheriff and others, he was summoned to come to Salisburie, to be of the grand jury. Upon this evidence, the court was satisfied he was not guilty; but I cannot acquitt that jury, for acquittinge Henry Zouche, whom I prosecuted, having clear evidence against him, and being a bold confident young fellow, and likely to engage in such actions and highway robbing. I reserved Lavington and Heyward out of your list, for this fellow, and some others, whose testified fully and positively against him, and soe did Westfield, whom you sent from London, and in my chamber, Collier, that you sent downe, and one Tarrant, that major Butler produced, affirmed the same; but the two last minced their evidence at the

the barr, saying, they were much mistaken, if they saw him not. This brought a jealousie A. D. 1655.
upon the rest; but if those had not been produced, the others without them would have
convicted them; but labouring it seems too much in it, and endeavouring to make it very
clear, because upon their examinations they denied them to be in the companie of the
rebells, and declared in what other particular place they were, though they offered not one
tittle of proof to any one place, yet the jury, some of them being neighbours unto him,
acquitted them; in all other things did well. I shall not put his highness to much charge
about witnesses; all those that are suspected to be in the rising, I make to beare their own
charges. I have bound divers to appeare at Exeter that knowe the prisoners there. I will
give you a little account of some passages this day at church. Mr. Gower, in his prayer
after sermon, blessed God for suppressing those people, and prayed the Lord to direct
the judges, that justice might be done. Mr. Bence, in his prayer in the afternoon said,
that a treason was plotted, but blessed the Lord, that nothing came to execution but the
traitors. In my last I wrote unto you for direction, what should be done with those pri-
soners, against whom noe indictment shall be framed, the commission being to deliver
the gaole. Mr. Hill and mr. Greaves present their service unto you, and I desire you will
accept the like from

Your most humble servant,

Dorchester, April 15, 1655.

EDM. PRIDEAUX.

I have written thus large, having now leifure, and shall crave your excuse this next
weeke.

I am still your petitioner, on the behalfe of Lyme.

Serjeant Glynne to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I SAW your letter, that you sent by this messenger to mr. attorney generall, whereby Vol. xxv.
I perceive you have received an accompt of our proceedings at Salisbury, where the p. 411.
grand and the pettie juries behaved themselves well, only one mr. Zouch paste them a
little too easie; but I doe not blame them soe much as the evidence, that somewhat shrunke
from their former examination. Judgment is given against them all, but wee referred
the sheriffe of Wiltes to receive his direction for the tyme of execution from us at
Exeter, where hee is to attend to give evidence. This wee did, that wee might give op-
portunity to his highness to receive an accompt of our proceedings, and that wee may
have his direction, if his pleasure bee to reprove any. But indeed I should not fit to
delay the execution of such as muste suffer, longe; therefore you will doe well to dispatch
it as soone as conveniently you may, but by all meanes before wee depart from Exon.
It failes to my charge to manage the affayres at Exeter, where I believe there will bee
worke enough. I hope God will strengthen mee to performe my duty there, accordinge
to the talent hee hath bestowed upon mee. I thinke, that county beinge dispatched, there
will not much remaine of the principall businesse to bee acted in Summerfethire; and
therefore I hope to obteyne leave to goe streight from thence to London, which I purpose
to doe, without I receive a command to the contrary (which I hope I shall not) and leave
Summerfethire to the other commissioners. Mr. Recorder gives the charge there. The
indictments for treason were upon conference by us altogether somewhat altered from the
frame they brought from London. The reason I shall impart to you when I see you.
You may discern by the coppie, that wee incert onely the leavyinge of warre against
the lord protector and the government, which is a treason by the fundamentall lawe of
the land. I have troubled you too longe, and shall conclude my selfe

Dorchester, April 15, 1655.

Your most faythfull servant,

J. GLYNNE.

Major general Disbrowe to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I AM come to Salisbury verie wearie. I doe not perceave by any I have yet talked Vol. xxv.
withall, but that the country is verie satisfied in the tryeing of those people, and the p. 417.
manner of their trial is looked upon by the people to bee accordinge to the govern-
ment, and on the accompt of the present power. I have sent you the inclosed, which I
met with heere; if you please to peruse itt, you may see what his thoughts are in the
busines. Soe not haveinge any thinge else at present, I rest

April 15, 1655.

Your friend and servant,

JOHN DISBROWE.

Mr. N.

Mr. N. Manton to secretary Thurloe.

HONNORABLE SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxv.
p. 421.

I AM credibly informed, that John Kinsey, a chirurgeon, one of the persons condemned at Salisbury for the late insurrection there, was a person merely drawn by one Mason a desperate fellow, and knew nothing of the designe more than to ride 50 miles with the said Mason; and that had hee not confest and pleaded guilty, hee had not been condemned. If you shall judg it meet to speake to his highnes for a reprieve for such a person, I pray it of you, and remaine, fir,

Your obliged kinsman to serve you,

London, April 15, 1655.

NATH. MANTON.

Mr. William Eyre to mr. Philip Edes.

GOOD MR. EDES,

Vol. xxv.
p. 426.

I Should not have troubled you at this time, nor upon this occasion, but that I conceive there is an obligation lying on mee. There is one mr. Mack of this city, who stands condemned for being in the late rebellion; he went forth som while after the rest, had noe hand in the mutinies acted in this towne, as in taking away horses, surprising the sheriffe, judges, &c. hee was in company with the rebells but three houres, and then return'd; hee made known his returne to me and mr. Huly, discovered the weaknes and confusion of the enemy, which was a very great refreshing to honest men, that before were much fadded, and under great feares. Wee gave notice thereof unto the judges then in towne, and by their approbation, sent him up to my lord. He acknowledged his offence, confests'd all that hee knew of the matter, and receiv'd his highnes gracious protection both of person and goods. And truly I am perswaded, hee is as worthy of mercy as any one in the company; but since, upon a grudge the sheriff hath conceived against him, hee hath caused his brother, col. Gravenor, to incense his highnes against him, as is conceived, as if hee had not revealed all that hee knowes; and thereupon (notwithstanding his highnes former favour) he was indicted and condemned. I have dealt with him in private, and truly I am fully perswaded, that hee hath dealt ingenuously, and confests'd all that hee knowes. I have great hopes of his true remorse, nor can I learne, that the sheriff hath any other ground for his bitterness against him, but for that hee did not make use of him as a mediator to the lord protector, and for that he made a discovery of som arms to mr. Huly, and not to the sherriff. Now 'tis a sad thing, that a man's life should bee sacrificed to a man's spleen and malice. I was informed, that the attorney generall (though hee were for the protector and commonwealth) told the sherriff, that mr. Mack had not been brought to tryall, had it not been for him. The poor man offers, that if one syllable can bee prooved more then hee confessed to the lord protector, hee is willing to dye the worst of deaths. I professe, I would not speak in his behalfe, did I not believe, that the man hath dealt ingenuously; and truly I and divers other honest men are fadded about him, because hee is prosecuted upon noe better account. The cavaleers rejoyce at his misery, because hee was the first that discouraged their party. I suppose it will bee but of bad consequence for the future, if the like occasion should happen, if they, that submit first, and deal most ingenuously, shall fare as bad as any, and worse then most, yea, then those that have done ten times more. 'Tis the way to make men desperate. I pray doe what lyes in you to further our brother Hulye's undertakings in this most righteous suit. I will not use more arguments. I am perswaded you are a lover of righteousness, and hate such practizes, whereby justice is made subervient to men's passions. I commend you heartily to the Lord, and remayne

Your most affectionate freind,

Sarum, April 15, 1655.

WILL. EYRE.

The superscription,

*To his much esteemed freind, mr. Philip Edes,
at his lodgings in Whitehall.*

Bordeaux,

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to his father.

MY LORD,

I HAVE received your letter of the 21st. It doth declare, that his eminence doth expect the return of the messenger with impatience; to know the effect of the letter. At present there is some likelihood of accommodation; but it is not easy to know when the lord protector will be in humour to conclude it. I have not advanced any thing these two days, the one being yesterday, and to day the secretary went to take the air, and my commissioner took physick, so that no resolution is taken. I prest the first this morning as much as was possible before he went; he gave me a great deal of hope I should have satisfaction given me, laying the delay upon this, that the protector could not get his council together to examine the difficulty, which doth depend upon one word, but in effect, they will spin out some days, and it is not easy to avoid it, unless one will be gone without taking leave. I am resolved not to lose a moment, and you may assure the earl of Brienne, or his eminence, if you see them, *que comme presentement il ne s'agit plus de surmonter aucune difficulté, la conclusion ou mon depart ne tireroit plus en longueur.* I have troubled myself to penetrate into the motives of these delays, and hitherto there hath not appeared any thing considerable nor certain. Some think, that the protector doth think to crown himself, and would forbear to conclude, to the end, that France should be obliged to acknowledge him; but this design doth not yet appear. Others say, that they expect the coming of an ambassador extraordinary from Spain, who hath threatened to pass the sea for these six months, and now they say he is embarked. But it may be all this may be forged and have nothing of truth in it, and that these reports are only sowed to make men believe his voyage, which is said to be deferred, till that they hear from the fleet of Penn. I have formerly writ, that the protector hath not received any tidings, unless it were by that vessel of Diepe, whereof you writ me word to day. We know less of it than you do, but every one doth believe, that it is gone for Mexico; and I saw this night a merchant who is to undertake to carry refreshments; he saith, that the state doth treat with him to make that voyage. Here is no other news, but that some, that rose lately for the king, are condemned to die; others say (which I am told of a certain) that the jury would not find those guilty, who were brought before them.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxv.
P. 363.

London, April 26, 1655. [N. S.]

Alderman Tichborn to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

BY reason of my attendance this day on the lord maior, I am necessitated to writt; otherwise should personally a waited on you, to have intreated your favor in the behalfe of on John Kansey, whoe is on his own confession condemned at Saulisborrow to die for treason. I should not move in his behalfe, but that I am credibly informed, hee is an object fitt for his highnes his mercy, his case beeinge thus. Hee was betrayed by a friend to goe with him, not knoweing whether, into the late risinge, and soe soone as hee discovered what it was, made his escape from them with the hassard of his life; and of his beeinge there had no other accuser but himselfe. Upon theise considerations, I thinck it not unfuteable to present him to your honor, desiringe you would improve your intrest with his highnes for a repreeve, untill his highnes may have forther information from the judges at their retourne. If it bee otherwise then my information, I shall not interseade; but if this matter of fact be true, I thinck his highnes will not have a fitter objecte for his mercy. Your favor to him in this shall bee acknowledged by

Your honor's reall friend and servant,

London, Aprill this 16th day of, 1655.

ROBERT TICHBORNE.

Mr. James Nutley to secretary Thurloe.

MAIE IT PLEASE YOU, SIR,

I CAME from Sarum to Exceter this morning, the judges intending to bee here to morrow. Since my cominge hither, I have spoken with the high sheriffe of this county, whome I finde very active in this service. Hee told mee, that on fryday night last, after Penruddocke came into the prifon, the prifoners had agreed together to make

Vol. xxv.
P. 437.

VOL. III.

5 E

an

A. D. 1655. an escape, and to breake through the guards that night; but hee, by the tymely intelligence given to him, doubled the guards, and prevented that designe. I have spoken with severall persons since I came to towne, who are fit to bee used as witneses, and doe believe the evidence wil be cleare against them here. I suppose mr. fergeant Glynne will give the charge here, and manadge the buffineffe in the court, which may very much advantage the service. It might have been manadged better at Salisbury. Mr. attorney generall intends to lodge here at one mr. Snowe's house, an alderman of this city. I lodge at one mr. Westlake's house, the town clerke of Exceter, who tooke diverse examinations of the prisoners and witneses, and is very usefull in the service. If Harrison or Turner come hither, I shall be carefull to observe their actions, and to give your honor speedy notice of it. The high sheriffe also tells mee, that one Bennet a prisoner told him, that Penruddocke and the rest of the prisoners had agreed together to stand mute, and not to acknowledge the jurisdiction. Sir, the post hastens, which makes mee thus hastily scribble. Begging your honor's pardon, I humbly rest

Exceter, April 16,
1655.

Your honor's most humble
and obedient servant,
JAMES NUTLEY.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning.

Antwerp, April 26, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxv.
p. 371.

I Received your's the 16th instant, with the bill for 150 l. and the other paper. All yours are come safely to my hands, as I hope mine are to yours. Sir, your punctuall dealing with me hath clearly confirmed the good report the world hath of you; and, sir, you may rely on having your business done, according as you shall order me; which I expect by the next, full directions in the same cipher I here send you; which really, sir, not being well att this present, is not so full, I doubt, as I could wishe; but what there may want, as you direct, I shall make good in the next; and for the future, lett your letters, that you send about this business, be addressed as I have directed; for before yours

Collen. C. S.

come, I shall be att 1016, 1005. being there. I have writ about the commodities, and still wholly bend myself to that trade, according to your former advise.

C. S. ca me to Collen so nd ay last. Hide is at B re da yet
1005. 293. 172. 163. 1016. 550. 480. 530. 409. 1007. 73. 460. 41. 77. 545. 556.
ma ny are there.

102. 145. 404. 184. Sir, I pray excuse me this post, being of my ill disposition, and assure yourself, you have none more cordialy yours, then

Sir, your fathfull servant,

ANDREW BURTON.

Let your Cover be to mr. Henry May, att mr. Twiddie's house in the Ew de Strote tot Antwerpen.

Your orders, for mr. Andrew Burton, att Antwerpen; for mr. Zachary Johnson, att Mecklin; or, for mr. Humfrey Gregson, att Berghen Op some.

I pray lett me have the diurnalls, when you write; and be very carefull in, &c. as I formerly wrott. Sir, I pray send mee word, whether mr. An. Miller received my letter.

SIR,

The marqués de Leda is now very busily preparing att Bruxelles for his journey into England, as embassador from these countreys. They seeme all much startled, to here that generall Penn hath landed men att Cuba nere the Havan, which gives tokens of a warre intended against Spaine. There is a fuddeine alteration amongst all; for the post before a warre between England and France was with much joy in every bodie's mouth, but now the cleere contrary feared; and amongst the governors here, there is much dissention. The arch-duke, or rather Fuensfeldane, hath clapt up into the castell the audierier of these countreys, as also Montecuculi, governor of Armentires, where a revolt was very nere lately by Irishe, who dayly run in to the French in considerable numbers. Don Pedro, lieutenant generall

generall of the horse, is sent prisoner to Ghendt. The depth of these great plots noe A. D. 1655. man yett knoweth, that is not att the helme; but realy in all outward shew the French will gaine much this next campaign.

Many are dayley apprehended.

The superscription,

*For my worthy and much honoured freind,
mr. Jeremiah Joselin, att London.*

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning.

SIR,

I Received your's of the 13 old stile, in answer to mine from Berghen St. Winnocks, as Vol. xxv. I conceive, though the date be mistaken. I could not then give you any better ac- P. 377. compt, for I had not a quarter of an houres time there since. From this towne, by the last, I wrott more att large to mr. Joslin, which I question not but came to his hands. Sir, what I writt then, now, and before, being altogether summed up, I am sure is a large and true accompt of the management of your's and his merchandize. If by hast, or the tediousness of the language I wrott to him in, I have bin too concise in any particular, I leave itt to you or him to give me a hint in the same tongue, wherein I have bin soe, and I shall accordingly more amply explaine itt.

I am now for Collen. Lord Ge ra rd and Ma f si went this 324. 278. 89. 211. 1016. 535. 365. 594. 63. 306. 102. 343. 511. 192. 540. da y, and all fa il ing, not th ing will fe rve but the prot. s 545. 500. 306. 264. 127. 464. 576. 75. 316. 576. 346. 399. 273. 237. 372. 1007. 343. m u rt her and prot. s do un fa l at co u rt, on 46. 261. 259. 170. 306. 1007. 343. 56. 443. 127. 367. 446. 413. 257. 259. 411. who all mis for t un s are put. Prince Ro be rt sent to but 318. 264. 284. 211. 51. 443. 343. 505. 300. 342. 217. 97. 259. 50. 149. &c. 237. you shall k now all on the re t u rn of the letter s. Ch. St. is 570. 92. 213. 89. 264. 411. 386. 49. 51. 261. 203. 285. 372. 423. 343. 1005. 73. design d to meet the prince at In we rs, ab out fo u rt ee n 1030. 517. 149. 244. 2372. 1017. 460. 46. 122. 245. 96. 593. 183. 261. 259. 266. 424. da ye s hence. Wilmot Armoror are all in Engl. yet mrs. P hi li ps 545. 528. 343. 198. 1014. 1015. &c. 404. 264. 506. 403. 556. 46. 454. 226. 465. 230. can give an ac co un t of Wilmot and most of the re f t 307. 407. 292. 110. 419. 429. 51. 285. 1014. 320. 326. 285. 372. 40. 343. 51. and end: I have w ri t for none can make so cl ea r di f 306. 418. 324. 100. 597. 133. 51. 197. 103. 307. 116. 597. 391. 210. 49. 587. 357. co veri es as they.

419. 331. 13. 418. 484. Sir, those that knowe our dealings will not thinke much of my writing thus huddywinked to you, for realy you cannot imagine the prejudice that hath hapened to the detriment of trading, since that under pretence of your states opening of our letters, many perones have assumed that liberty to themselves, only to make advantages of other men's industreys to theire owne benefitt. I send the inclosed to mr. Miller, which, I pray, deliver him, and let me once more begg the favoure, that you would cause your man every weeke to putt mee up a news booke, and though I shall now be more remote, yet be confident weekly of an accompt from me; and wherein I can serve you, be pleased freely to dispose of him, who is, sir,

Your most humble servant,

ZACHARY JOHNSON.

Lett your address to me be constantly in a cover to mr. Henry May, att mr. Twiddie's house on the Ew de Strote in Antwerp, till you heare further.

At Bruxelles it is said, that Charles duke of Lorraine will for mony be sett at liberty, and that it is almost agreed, which, with the hopes of the new pope's making a peace

England,

between France and Spain, together with a kindness he hath to the nation of 403. much

Ch. Stew.

encourages 1005.

The superscription,

For mr. John Browne, these, at London.

A letter

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxv.
p. 379.

SIR J. Harper, mr. Tretswill, mr. James Stanhope, and many others in the county of Derby were engaged: mr. Richard Nicholls, a servant of the duke of York and his agent now in Spain, can give an account of them.

The earls of Marlborough, Carlisle, Peterborough, lord Sands, and mr. H. Howard of Arundel, J. Russell knows to be engaged. The earles of Northumberland and Pembroke, lord Stanhope, O Neile hath tampered with.

E. Progere and H. Seymore know all; Denham useth to make his dispatches by doctor Morley at the Hague, and so to Ch. Stew. and Hyde.

The earl of Oxford, lord Willoughby, sir William Compton, sir R. Willis, when the storm is a little over, will seize Linn, Boston, or Yarmouth, and the Germans ^{pr. Scott} 216. 529. i did by

338. 42. 209. Schonberg. The dukes of Newburg, Brandenburg, &c. intend to land there, and the duke of York with Irish, &c. In the West, for which they intend to lye quiet with their parties in the sea; and sir Ch. St. In Arundel of Cornwall consists most of the king's present hopes, for they are persons both of courage and conduct, who will and dare attempt upon you.

The duke of Buckingham is said to be now with the protector, which enrageth many against the protector, as the occasion of forcing him to it for want of bread.

Hyde has lately been sick; he thought all cock sure, and himself great as the cardinal; but now fears the loss of the king's favour, by which he hath lived better abroad, than ever he could at home; he is gone to the Hague, and so to Cologne.

Dr. Henschman, Hyde, and serjeant Hyde, in and near Salisbury, are Hyde's correspondents there, and know all in those parts.

A letter of intelligence.

De Valperouze, Avril 27, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxv.
p. 387.

PAR le moyen du clergé Romain on adressé secretement une armée de cinq a six mille hommes, qui s'est jettée a l'un pour veue dans St. Jean, & la tour animée de la presence du sieur marquis de Pianezze, qui s'en estant saisi a esté incontinent renforcée non seulement de tous ceux d'entre nos voisins, qui pouvoient porter armes, mais de tout le Piedmont, qui adverti, qu'on nous donnoit au pillage, si est d'une fureur impetueuse, & notamment une infinité de hommes prisonniers, & autres criminels, croyans venir sauver leurs ames comme garnir leur bourse.

Encore n'a ce pas este assez; pour nous opprimer plus a l'aïse on nous a fait courré sus cinq ou six regiments de l'armée Françoisse, outre les Irlandois, aux quels on dit, qu'on veut donner nostre pays, & des troupes, qui filent encore tous les jours sous pretexte de venir es Vallées prendre le quartier de Rinfisco.

Ce nombre innombrable d'hommes avec la lice du marquis de Pianesse animés par les moines, & conduits & acharnez par nos mauvais voisins, nous a surpris de tant de costez, & avec telle violence, & difons encore avec telle & si espouventable trahison, sur tout en Angrogne, Villar, & Bobby, aux quels le dit sieur marquis avoit promis, que pourveu qu'ils logeassent seulement pour trois jours un regiment en chaque lieu ou communauté, ils n'auroient aucun mal, qu'en un moment toute esté en defarroy, & les pauvres habitans, apres quelques combats souterus pour repousser les boutefeus de leur temples, contraints de s'en fuir pour sauver femmes & enfans, non seulement ceux de la plaine, qui les avoient retirer au montagnes mesmes, qui se voient trahis & pris par derriere, mais on n'a peu user de telle diligence, que grand nombre des nostres n'a est attrappé en plusieurs lieux, & en d'autres comme Villar & Bobby, reserré, sans pouvoit sauver leurs vies, les ennemis s'estants saisis du fort de Murebone, pour les empescher de passer; ainsi on en a fait un estrange massacre.

Il y a tel recoin, ou l'on a vilainement tormenté les 150 femmes & petits enfans, & puis leur a on élevé les testes, on a froissé les autres contre les rochers, & les prisonniers parvenus a l'usage de quinze ans & au dessus, qui n'ont point voulu consentir a aller a la messe, on les a pendu, mesmes clouez a des arbres les pieds en haut, & ils l'ont constamment enduré. Ceux de Morgue, on les a dit on emmené a Turin, comme un de nos pauvres freres monsieur Gros pasteur et partie de sa famille. Il ny a plus au Val Luzernebuten ny bestail: ce qu'on a sauvé est peu, & les ennemis ont fourni diverses villes

du Piedmont du reste. Pour les meubles tout est aussi perdu, puis qu'il y a des communautés entières, sur tout St. Jean & la Tour, ou l'on n'a baillé une seule maison, qui s'ait passé par le feu aussi bien que leur temples, & le feu ménage par un moine Franciscain reformé & un prestre. Parmy ces desolations, la mere a perdu l'enfant, le mari la femme les plus riches sont a l'aumosne, & sont dans les sanglots, & d'autant plus esloignes d'avoir quelque consolation, qu'estant demeurees quelques eglises en Valperouze & St. Martin azile aux persecutes, aujourd'hui elles ont commandement de deshabiter toutes promptement sous peine de la vie. Celles qui sont sur les service de S. A. R. & n'ont autre remede, que de vider pais, quoy que s'en fait, nos belles florissantes & anciennes eglises sont perdues sans ressource, si Dieu ne fait merveille pour elles. Leurs temps est venu, nostre mesure estoit comble; mais ayez pitie des ruines de Jerusalem, & gemisses pour la froissure du pauvre Joseph; mais sur tout ayez de compassion réelle, ouvrons vos entrailles a des milliers de personnes reduites a l'aumosne pour vouloir l'agreer par tout ou il y a.

A. D. 1655.

Sir Thomas Widdrington to Secretary Thurloe.

Mr. SECRETARY,

I Received a letter last night from Mr. Hewley a lawyer, who lives att York, who writes Vol. xxv. to me, that he is named a commissioner in the oyer and terminer shortly to be sitt upon P. 455. at York; and that he hath alsoe received a letter from you, to be of counsell with his highnes the lord protector against the prisoners; but thinks he cannot performe the latter, because he is named a commissioner. I thought it my duty to give you advertisement hereof, that in case Mr. Hewley's acting as an advocate herein be thought necessary, then he may be putt out of the commission; or if that be not deemed fitting, that then some other be appointed to performe that part of an advocate, which was intended to be done by him. I write this, least the service might suffer any prejudice upon this occasion, and remaine

Sir, your very humble servant,

April 17, 1655.

THOMAS WIDDRINGTON.

Mr. Strickland to Secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

MR. solicitor and I mette at Grantham on the lord's day last, being the 15th instant; Vol. xxv. from thence we writ our letters to the judges and col. Lylbourne, to meet us this P. 459. night, being the 17th instant, at Yorke; but contrary to our expectation, we found Mr. Justice Nudigate and serjeant Hutton at Doncaster on thire way to London, where they and we yet are, they not being willing to goe to Yorke 'til they speake with baron Thorpe, who is written to be heere forthwith, and seeme to hould opinions, which differ in the foundations; I mean about the ordinance for treason; and if I may be allowed to conjecture, they expect, that Mr. barron Thorpe will be of the same mind. I have spooke with the high sheriffe, who will have litell to doe in the business, all being within the county of the citye. I have done the best I can to possess the judges with the great concerne of the business in hand, but the difficulty as yet seems incurable. Truly I am sorrie to find things in the posture I doe. I have yet no hopes, but to returne immediately from hence to London *re infesta*, for we cannot agree in principles. If baron Thorpe's coming hither to morrow and col. Lylbourne's produce any thing better, I shall be glad to alter my opinion; but the face of thinges are yet very ill, and I look for noe better. I will writ to none this post but your selfe, that you may impart it to his highness and my lord Lambert; and at my coming, which will be with the first, when I see noe more hopes, I will make out most fully, what now I doe but point at; that soe you may the better make a judgment of what we shall bring. My most humble duty and service to his highness, my best respects to your selfe. I am,

Doncaster, April 17, 1655.
12 at night.

Sir, your most faithfull

friend and servant,

W. STRICKLAND.

Mr. W. Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxv.
P. 463.

THE other, that goeth herewith, is a duplicate of my last. I have since that time received word from the chancellor Almas Iuanuick, that such answers as he will give me in writing, by the emperor's command, I shall have them when I have my order to go down to Archangel, and not before; neither have I answer to my letter written to the chancellor; which makes me continue in my first opinion, that they (and the emperor's letter I have already for his highness lord protector) will give little satisfaction to our demands made them; except the Pole get some advantage in the war against this people this ensuing summer: then the emperor may abate of his present pride. He hath carried with him two millions of dollars for the use of his army.

If it stand with his highness's likeing, that at Archangel I open the emperor's letter, to have it there turned into English by Thomas Bryan, the English merchant, that's here, and will be there at the mart, who is my confident, well versed in the Russe idiome, I believe he will do it better than any in London. This standing with his highness's pleasure, I must have your honor's commands by the ships the Muscovy company will send this year to Archangel, which will depart the Thames about the end of June.

The last year, the day that I arrived to Archangel (with permission of that government) I took a cook and scullion, Russes, and kept them 'till yesterday, that the chancellor sent to me to turn them off, he having such express order from the patriarch, and that they shall receive punishment for serving me; that the governor of Archangel could not give them permission to serve me, being he knew 'twas contrary to the emperor's order, published last year.

I have the house where I am for my prison (I term it so, being I have no permission to go forth of it) and this under the specious pretext, that the emperor is absent, and the city not governed now as it was when he was here, so that I might receive affronts and injuries by wicked persons, in going abroad.

The crown of Sweden's commissary (we do mutually visit one another by our gentlemen) hath sent unto me, to be excused, that he comes not himself in person to see me, which he would do, though his indisposition is such, that he cannot stand on his legs; but if he should come unto me, he fears there would arise some great inconvenience to him by it; so most humbly, and with all respective reverence, I take leave and remain.

Sent under cover to the Muscovy company.

Mosco, March 28, 1655.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

THE above written is a copy of my last. These will give your honor advertisement, that, at my departure from London, Robert Canning (a merchant and member of the Russia company) by this remembrance, requested me to procure payment of 760 rubbles (two rubbles is counted a pound sterling) that Vassilly Shorin, sen. (a Russe merchant) oweth him, by his bill, contracted, it should seeme, in Archangel in 1651. and payable in 1652. which bill, from that time 'til my arrival to this city, remained in the hands of one Valentine Daives, a Lieflander, and subject to the crown of Sweden, and then delaid me, according to Canning's order. Whilst the bill was in Daives's hands, he used all diligence possible that he could, as well in his own name, as being the creditor of Canning, as also his attorney; but in no ways could obtain payment, nor justice against Shorin. Some five or six days before the last departure of the emperor from this city, I sent to the chancellor, Almas Iuanuick, the copy of Shorin's bill, and desired justice to be done me of that sum, and cause payment to be made me, now Canning's attorney, and that if I could, not for the present have the sum contained in the bill, at least I might have 400 rubbles, that I had contracted with Canning in England to receive of Daives, if he had received the contents of the bill from Shorin; and if not, then from himself: which sum of 400 rubbles was towards my charge in this journey, and for so much that I had paid Canning in England; but if Shorin did pay all the 760 rubbles, I would deliver him up his bill, and give him a final acquittance. I had for answer from the chancellor, that he could do nothing in the matter, until he had communicated it to the emperor. Whilst the emperor was here, I could have no other answer in this affair. But since his majesty's departure on the 28th of last month, I had from the chancellor, that Shorin should pay that bill of 760 rubbles out of 2000 rubbles he pretends to be creditor from other English merchants, and in particular from one Pye, that died some years before the debt due to Canning by Shorin was made.

Also

Alto the 28th of last month, about an hour after I had delivered my letters, that went A. D. 1655. by that conveyance that then departed, my prestave came with some men and order from the chancellor to fetch away my cook and scullion Russes (I had paid them the day before two shillings, that I was owing them for a full rest of their wages, and dismiss them) and searching for them in my house, and not finding them, on that the soldiers of my guard, and others that came with the prestave, having notice, that they were in a little room that is adjoining to the yard of my house, and in my precincts, where they had hid themselves, were there found, and forthwith all carried to the Possesky office, and put in irons. As soon as they were there, the chancellor told them, they should not be burnt for serving me, but they should have the long lash (a terrible kind of whipping.) The prestave, which came with me from Archangel (who is now a writer in the office) was by the chancellor examined about them, who having referred, that they served me by permission of the vayvode of Archangel, had for answer, that the prestave and vayvode also might for it be treated as the prisoners were.

Present upon the cook and scullion's carrying away prisoners, I writ a billet to the chancellor (copy of it I send your honor herewith) and sent it by my servant, who delivered it into his own hands, the which John Hebden refused to translate into Russe, thereby thinking to more indear himself into the emperor's favour, and shew himself a faithful and devoted servant, pretending, that his imperial majesty was disrespected by the contents of it; but the chancellor commanded him to do it, telling him, that let it contain what it will, it was I that writ it, and not he; on which, he translated it, but whether right, or no, I know not.

The 29th ditto, the chancellor sent me the prime writer of the office, which I brought into my chamber. The first thing he said unto me was, that I seemed to be very melancholy. I told him, that I had occasion given me for it:

First, for that I had not permission to go over land by Riga, when I had his majesty's letter; and then also I might have had the answers in writing, that are promised me, and have then departed as well, and with as much security, as the duke of Courland's messenger, that departed hence the 18th of March, with his majesty's convoy.

Secondly, the chancellor denied me justice, to my just demand of the 400 rubbles from Shorin, in part of his bill due to Robert Canning, an English merchant.

Thirdly, my cook and scullion taken and made prisoners for serving me, and that solely at the instigation of my prestave; for that those poor men did not give him their wages that they had earned for some months (which they could not do) to buy him a coat, and a present he would have had from them on his name-day (a custom they have here, on their name-days they look to be presented from their kindred, friends, and those that may have occasion of them) and thus excessive used, though they served me with permission from the vayvode of Archangel.

I then demanded of him, if he had brought me answer to what I had written the chancellor; the answers in writing, that were promised me by his imperial majesty (for that the chancellor said, they were ready) and whether I had permission to go forth of doors, to visit a friend, and take the air, accompanied with the soldiers that I have for my guard. His reply was, that he had brought me no answer nor resolution to what I demanded, and that I had not permission to go forth of doors; but that he had brought me from the chancellor a present of a number of fables, that his imperial majesty (then he recited all his titles) did grace me with; and with that called in the servants that brought the present. I told him, that I was so dealt withall in those particulars, that I had narrated unto him, that I could not accept of his majesty's favour, nor any more of his allowance, but I would be at my own charges.

That when I had the answers in writing that are promised me, I would then resolve, whether I would accept of his majesty's grace, yea, or no; that it was the custom in other princes courts, when they did favour a publick minister with a present, it was given him at his departure, and not before, and that I was yet like to remain a prisoner some months longer than I had been already.

The true English approve of my proceedings, but it may be, not the English Russes, and that for their own interest.

It hath been told me, the intention was to have taken away the allowance I had from the emperor, present after the delivery of the present, if I had received it; but this I do not write of a certainty.

The prestave shews himself to be of a very base condition, being that for the time he waited on me (which was whilst the emperor was here, and three or four days after) I sent him fifteen dollars. Four bottles of strong waters I had given him before, which were worth four dollars more (esteemed to be a reward very sufficient) and yet this fellow came to me every other day, craving for more gifts, which put me a little out of patience.

A. D. 1655.

The second current in the morning, something betimes, Johannes de Rodes, the crown of Sweden's commissary, gave me a visit (he came at such a time to avoid that none of these ministers might come to the knowledge of it) and amongst the occurrences that we treated of, this was one that he told me; that the day I had my first audience of the emperor, as soon as I was dismissed the commissary had his; and that afternoon he went to Elia Daniellulek (the emperor's father-in-law) upon occasion of business with him, where, after their finishing of treating of affairs, you know, says he, that before you had audience of his imperial majesty, the English ambassador had his, who as soon as he was come into the room, the emperor and all others had our hearts so great, that they were in our mouths; and it wanted but little he was not sent forth of our presence, for to see one come from a man, that cut off his king's head; but we did dissemble to hear him; but, says Elia to the commissary, as soon as you appeared before us, our hearts were settled, and visages composed with serenity, and our arms open to receive and welcome you. The commissary told me, he knows very well, that that was but an adulatory speech; that they wish no better to his king and himself than they do to his highness lord protector and me; and if they grant us any favourable answer to our demands, it will be more for fear of us, than for any good will they bear us.

He is requested, by the merchant of Hamburg, that trades into these parts by Archangel, that desires very earnestly to be informed particularly how I am entertained here; for that if it should not be to his highness lord protector's content, and the English merchants satisfaction, they of Hamburg and Holland would think the commerce to Archangel would be interrupted by English ships of war. Moreover he told me, that his king would have ready this ensuing month of May near 40,000 men in arms, commanded by general Kohningsmark, and to be the greatest part in Pomerland; but what the king his master's design is as yet, he knows not. That a great part of the levies are made voluntary at the particular charges of that king's subjects.

That extraordinary ambassadors were to be here this year from Sweden. He before certified me, that he knows for truth, that this emperor's patriarch, and generally all his majesty's counsellors do repent themselves for beginning the present war against the Pole, and would be glad of an accord with restitution of what he hath taken. That if the general Molofskas Cossack should revolt from the emperor, and agree with the king of Poland, his imperial majesty would have the worst in this war, insomuch that this city, and a great part of the tract of the country would be sack'd, burnt, and ruined, and this deemed inevitable. The cause of the war is chiefly, if not solely, about titles the emperor pretends from the king of Poland, which he will not give him.

Also the second current the chancellor caused the battawe (that is laid down on the ground, and beaten on the back and legs with staves) to be given my cook and scullion, and then let them go, with order not to serve me any more in Lent without any further distinction, whether he must serve me out of Lent.

The fourth current in the morning the chancellor sent me my prestave to tell me, that he had besought the patriarch, that the cook and scullion might return to serve me, but could not obtain permission; and I sent the chancellor answer by the prestave, that although the cook and his mate had permission to serve me, I would not accept of them, except they were sent me by his order, and brought me by the prestave or some other such man, with satisfaction for the affront done me, in taking them away as they were, and putting them in irons, and punishing them for serving me; and so much he should tell the chancellor from me.

The tenth current the chancellor sent me word, that I might go abroad and visit any person that I had desire to see; that the prohibitions that were formerly made me, was for respect and care they had for my person, that no hurt should come unto me; but who knows not, that this is an excuse to colour their incivility towards me?

The last week the Dutch merchants here received missives and the printed occurrences from Amsterdam, wherein is advertised from London of the 26th of February and 10th of March of great changes and removes in England; of a new conspiracy discovered against his highness the lord protector, that he is departed Whitehall with some regiments of soldiers into the city of London; the landing of the king of Scots in England, and many other advices of new sorts of religion, and of things tending to revolutions in the commonwealth; and of all is given information to these ministers. The English merchants here have received no letters at all out of England, nor have had any of a fresher date than the 10th of December.

Upon Easterday was with me again a gentleman of the governor of Archangel, who assured me for a verity, that his lord had certain advice, that the king of Sweden's levies of soldiers and preparatives for war, were designed against this emperor, and so much is written him by that government.

Two days past I was with the commissary of Sweden, when he told me, that he knew not certainly, whether it might be true, what the vayvode of Archangel had written this

emperor touching the king of Sweden's design, but there is a great appearance of it. A. D. 1655. However that majesty's extraordinary ambassadors may be here before the end of the next month, and goe to the emperor at Smolensko, and then the certainty will be known.

The news we have from Smolensko is, that a great part of the provisions that have been sent from hence this last winter, have been intercepted and taken by the Poles, so that in that city there is a great want of all necessaries of food, both for men and horse. That the Pole is strong within ten or fifteen miles about that city, and from it and the emperor's other quarters thereabouts, they do not adventure to go forth but very strong, and yet ordinarily return with much loss of men.

Right honourable,

Mosco, April 18, 1655.

Your honor's most humble servant,

WILLIAM PRIDEAUX.

Inclosed in the preceding.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

I DO by these give you to understand, that if my cooks would have given the wages they have received these five or six months to the man they here appointed my prestave, to have bought him a coat, they had remained with me; but since you have taken away them, you may the less keep back hereafter such allowance as I have hitherto had from the emperor, for I will have it no more, nor nothing else from his imperial majesty. And for the expences I have hitherto put his majesty unto, let it be deducted out of what he owes to our merchants, and it shall be allowed. I marvel, that so great a prince as his imperial majesty will serve himself for a gentleman of his house of a man of so base conditions as is the prestave that comes to me. I pray you, send him to me no more, for I will not speak with him; but any person else, whom you please.

From my prison, April 18, 1655.

W. P.

Mr. James Wilton, the English consul at Cadiz, to the protector.

Laus Deo, Cadiz, April 28, 1655. [N. S.]

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

BEING one of the least of your servants, I conceived it my duty to advise your highness so eminent a piece of news, as is the loss of the admirall of the South Sea, called the Jesus and Mary, on the 18th of October last, neare cape Saint Ellens, in three degrees of south latitude. Before she suncke downeright, they brought her into foure fathome water, by which meanes all the plate will bee saved, beeing eight millions of peeces of eight. This hath so detained the gallones, that at present here is no feartainty, when they may be expected; and the rather in regard the feare of your fleete may deteine them. The king is now dispatching a small gallon and pinnace to command them to come away, his occasions not brookeing their stay. The gallon is to goe directly for the Havana, and to send away the pinance, when they are past the Carribby Islands, for Carthagene. In one of these ports gallones will bee, if not come away; until whose arrivall this commerce is at a stand, the sad effects of which will bee seene in all the exchanges in Christiandome, and in all princes courts, friends and confederates to the crowne of Spaine. It is to bee feared, the king this summer will bee able to put no army into the field, neither in Flanders, nor Catalonia, which before this beene swallowed up by the French, had not your highnesse fleete kept them from going to sea. How far these acts of providence may have influence on those greate affaires, which God is working by your hand, I dare not shute my boulte further, then in prayers for your highnesse prosperity, and subscribe.

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

Laus Deo, Cadiz, the 20th of May, 1655. [N. S.]

The stay of the ship hath made my news something staile, but hath given mee oportunity to enlarge. This post from London hath wholly distracted this commerce, who were before without anny jealousies of a breach, all beeing raised and fomented by our owne nation, this people beeing unwilling to heare or beleive any such thing.

Two daies since arrived here a small vessell from Santa Domingo in 60 daies. Not anny news then of your fleete. If their attempt bee not on gallones or the Havana,

VOL. III.

5 G

it

A. D. 1655. it will not bee so much resented, as to cause a quarrel, so far as may bee judged by the dispositions of these people. And is all here offers worth your highnesse obsecrvice; remaine

Your highnesse most humble servant,

JAMES WILSON.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning.

April 28, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxv.
p. 401.

SINCE my other, one captain Moyzin is gon hence to England, commissioned to receive six hundred pounds sterling, to buy ten horses for the marquise of Newcastle, to be transported in several others names. What letters he may carry, I know not, but I thought fitt you should know this.

HUMPH. GREGSON.

Mr. Upton I have sent by this post.

General Blake to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxv.
p. 563.

MY last unto you was from this place of 14 March, since which tyme I have not had any opportunity of sending unto you, by reason of our various motions, and the stopp which hath beene put upon us in those places, where was noe meanes of conveyance by contrary and stormy winds, such as have scarcely been knowne in those parts. In that letter I gave you some accompt of what had past betweene us and those of Tunnis, refusing to doe us any justice in order to my demands, according to the particular instructions I received to that purpose. Allsoe of our withdrawing from that place for a while, with an intention to returne thither, which wee did upon the 18th of that moneth. After our arrivall wee found them more willful and untractable then before, adding to theyre obstinacy much insolence and contumely, denying us all commerce of civility, and hindering all others as much as they could from the same. These barbarous provocations did soe far worke upon our spirits, that wee judg'd it necessary for the honor of the fleet, our nation, and religion, seeing they would not deale with us as friends, to make them feelee us as enemyes; and it was thereupon resolved at a councill of warre, to endeavour the firing theire ships in Porto Farino. The better to effect the same, wee drew off againe and sailed to Trapani (our occasions likewise agreeing thereunto) that soe they might be the more secure. After the stay of some dayes there, we set saile back for Porto Farino, where wee arrived the third instant in the afternoone, and mett againe at a councill of war, at which it was resolved by the permission of God, to put in execution our former intentions. Accordingly the next morning very early, wee entered with the fleet into the harbor, and anchored before their castles, the Lord being pleased to favour us with a gentle gale off the sea, which cast all the smoake upon them, and made our work the more easie; for after some houres dispute, we sett on fire all theire ships, which were in number nyne, and the same favourable gale still continueing wee retreated out againe into the road. Wee had twenty five men slayne, and about forty hurt, with very little other loss. It is also remarkable by us, that shortly after our getting forth, the wind and weather changed and continued very stormy for many dayes, soe that we could not have effected the busines, had not the Lord afforded that nick of tyme, in which it was done. And now, seeing it hath pleased God soe signally to justify us herein, I hope his highnes will not be offended at it, nor any who regard duely the honor of our nation, although I expect to heare of many complaints and clamors of interested men. I confesse, that in contemplation thereof, and some seeming ambiguity in my instructions (of which I gave you a hint in my last) I did a while much hesitate myselfe, and was ballanced in my thoughts, until the barbarous carriage of those pyrats did turne the scale. I have sent a perfect accompt of the whole busines unto sir Thomas Bendish at Constantinople, by the comander of the Merchant's Delight of London, which was then by providence in the road of Goletta. You will alsoe herewith receive copies of all the particular passages between us. Wee are even now setting sayle to go for Algier, that being the only place in the Straites, that can afford us a considerable supply of bread and fleshe, if they will; otherwise wee are likely to be brought into great necessity, being disappointed of the hope wee had out of England, according to an offer made us long ago by the commissioners at Whitehall. From Algier wee intend, if God enable us, to sayle to Mayorca, and from thence

thence to range along the coast of Provence, to attend the French fleet in our way homeward, as long as our victualls will admitt, they now drawing very neare expiration. As touching the Neapolitan horses and mares, mr. Longland writes me, that they are at high and excessive rates; howbeit I have sent the Successe to Naples to attend there, for the transportation of them, in lieu of the Elias, which having in her a good quantity of beverage wine, and I hope some bread for the fleet, I have ordered to come to us at Mayorca. Sir, I have noe more at present to trouble you with, only desire you to present my humble service and duty to his highnes the lord protector. Recommending you to the Lord. I remayne

Aboard the George in Calary
bay, the 11 April 1655.

Your very affectionate friend and servant,

ROBERT BLAKE.

INFORMATION S.

These are informations I have had of late, soe that I have not yet had time to make a farther examination; but to morrow, or on monday at the farthest, God willing, it shall be don.

MR. Giles Pawlet, who is now in London, hath reported, that he doth know enough by esquire Windam to ruine him and his father's whole family for ever; meaning concerning the late insurrection, or words against the lord protector. And mr. Roger Pawlett of Pildson can relate som of it, and doth know where his brother mr. Giles Pawlett is, which Giles said, he would acquaint the lord protector therewith. The informer is Thomas Hazzard, who liveth near to sir Hugh Windam, and doth desire he may not be discovered, unles there be a necessity, for he saith, sir Hugh is such an envious man, there will be no living for him nere him; but he is confident the other will not deny it. Vol. xxv. p. 427.

Mr. John Bryne of Bemester, who is the sole instrument of all the informations I have hitherto met withall, informes me, that about the middle of June there was a great feast at mr. John Stroud's of Parnham, where were the lord Pawlett and severall other strange gentlemen.

Mr. Anian, minister of Stoke Abbot, reported to mr. William Gudge of the same parish, that parson Paul's mother said to him, though sir Hugh Wyndam had accused her son (the aforesaid parson) yet he would not accuse sir Hugh. I have sent for the parson, but as yet he is not to be found.

The aforesaid mr. Anian alsoe told mr. Edward Butler, a justice of the peace in Dorset, that a littel before the rising of the late rebels, he did gather by the aforesaid parson Paul's words, that there would be very suddenly som rising of the cavalere party.

Mr. William Gudge of Stoke informed me, that mr. John Gallopp of North Boowood said, that he would not refer the umperage of a deference betweene himself and Thomas Gudge of Stoke Abbot into the hand of any man, that would allow of any thing that the state had taken by sequestration; and further the said Gallopp saith, that the parliament had undone England by sequestring men's estates. The difference this informant saith, was about rent paid into the state by the said Thomas Gudge, by an order from the committee of Dorset upon the sequestration of Paul Goodwin for delinquency; but this informant desires the said Gallopp may not be meddled withall, 'till after the assizes, by reason, as he saith, of a triall, that Gallopp and this informant is then to have. I have this under his hand.

The prisoners plea for themselves at Exeter, April 18, 1655.

1. WE must enquire by friends of the juror's names, and challenge any, whom we conceive engaged against us, and challenge them particularly, and give them no reason, for the law alloweth us to challenge 35 without shewing reason; but we must not challenge above 35, lest judgment pass against us as mutes, refusing legal trial, and so be pressed. Vol. xxv. p. 475.

2. Besides the 35 challenged without cause shewn, we may challenge any, against whom we can shew cause; but the judge will declare whether it be a sufficient cause or no.

3. If any man hath named to the slieriff any one of the jurors remaining by any (saying his sworn officers, whose duty it is) and if two can prove it, the indictment and proceedings may be avoided by statute 11 Hen. IV. chap. 9.

4. We

A. D. 1655.

4. We must not immediately upon the reading of the indictment plead not guilty; for then we can have no council allowed, nor be admitted afterwards to plead the illegality of the indictment; but so soon as we have heard the indictment read, we may say, we conceive the indictment not sufficient in law, and that therefore we desire council to speak for us at law, and this before we say not guilty.

5. If the judge ask us, why the indictment is insufficient, seeming to deny us council, we must say, it is neither grounded on the common law, nor statute; and the judges are sworn to execute only the laws.

6. If the indictment (as it will) do call the jury, jurors for the lord protector, then again let us alledge, that we are not legally indicted, for there are no such persons by the law of England; for neither the common law, nor acts of parliament, do know or acknowledge any jurors for the lord protector.

7. If any alteration be made in the indictment by the judges, then desire, that the evidence to the grand inquest may be given at the bar in open court.

8. If one of the grand inquest stands outlawed, it makes void the indictment; and if we know any such, we may challenge them, and demand the indictment to be vacated by virtue of a statute, 11 Hen. IV. cap. 9. and if the judges bid us prove them to be outlawed, we may demand time, and we will bring it under seal.

9. We may desire a copy of the indictment, though the judges positively deny it, and urge my lord Coke for authority.

10. If we can find any uncertainty in the indictment, either in time or place, let us alledge it against the sufficiency of the said indictment.

11. If the indictment express not particularly some open deed we did in levying war, except against it as insufficient, and still insist upon the assignment of council to argue the whole, because it is a scruple in law worthy of great debate.

12. If the judges deny us council, tell them, others usually have had it, and particularly Mr. Norbury was counsel for Col. Lilburn, and the now judges Nicholas and Serjeant Maynard were council for Capt. Rolph, when he was accused for treason against the king.

13. If the judges require it, give the exceptions in writing, but expunge what makes against us, if seen, and still obtain council, and urge Humphrey Stafford's cause in the 1st of Hen. VII. for precedent.

14. If after arguing the case by council, or before, the judge overrule the plea, then insist upon the same plea to the jury, and put it upon their consciences, that God hath made them our judges to judge between us and the judges; and that, if we be found guilty by the jury, our blood will lie upon the jury, and the judges be acquitted; but if the jury find us not guilty, the jurors are innocent, if we die.

15. If the jury seems fearful to clear us absolutely, tell them the judges have overruled them; that it is safest for the jury to find a special verdict, which leaves the point in law to all the judges, whether or no it is treason, whereby also the jurors will leave all the danger that can follow, and all the bloodshed on the judges.

16. Tell the jury, that they are now to judge, whether or no we have committed treason; and if they judge that to be treason, which is no treason, our blood will be upon them; and there can be no treason, nor ever was in England, but such as is made so by the common law, or act of parliament.

17. Let every prisoner allow of one juror, whom another person hath challenged, and challenge him, whom another prisoner hath allowed, whereby every one of us shall have almost a whole distinct jury for himself, which juries possibly will differ in their opinions, at least it will puzzle the prosecutors to get so many several juries; therefore let every prisoner have pen and ink ready to note the names of the several jurors for several persons, who for one, and who for another.

18. They cannot indict and try us all in one day, as it is in Kelloway, fol. 159. 6. which the lord chief justice Rolle declared to be law in the case of the Portugal ambassador's brother.

19. If they indict us for felony, we may say it is no felony, except it be done with a felonious intent; and the country knows, we did not intend to steal, but only to borrow the horses, which is usual now a-days, and as the soldiers did now at London and elsewhere, who came against them; and the sheriff of the county was present, when divers horses were seized, and did himself seize some, which were none of ours.

20. Also ask the prosecutor upon the trial, whether he can take his oath, that we took the horses with a felonious intent; and if he will not swear it, then ask the jury, whether they can take it upon their oaths we stole the horses, where the prosecutor himself will not swear it.

21. Ask the prosecutor, whether he came voluntarily to prosecute against us; and if he did not, but was forced, then desire the jury to judge, whether, they that are come hither from London purposely, have not an intention to take away our lives.

22. If they indict us as traitors by any act of the long parliament, it will be for treason against the king, or against the commonwealth, and keepers of the liberty; we have done nothing against either of them, and let them prove it. A. D. 1653.

23. If they ground the indictment on any act or ordinance since the long parliament was dissolved, which was April 20, 1653, deny it to be an act; for the two last parliaments made no acts at all concerning treason, and there can be no treason by an ordinance. Therefore leave it upon the conscience of the jury, whether there be any laws to guide them in their verdict, besides common law and acts of parliament.

24. Tell the jury, that if the king had formerly with his council made a proclamation, order, or ordinance, declaring something to be treason, which neither the common law nor any act of parliament had so declared, that no jury hereupon durst have found any man guilty.

25. Alledge the case of Chief Just. Trefillian, sir Robert Belknappe, and other judges in 11 Rich. II. who gave their opinions, that other facts were treason than what had been declared by authority of parliament, and did it to please the then present governor, were attainted of treason for their opinions, and by the parliament following 11 Rich. were made examples for their treason. And in the 21 Rich. II. the judges giving the like opinion, had no other excuse to avoid the attainder of treason in parliament the 1 Hen. IV. than that they durst say no otherwise for fear of death; but it was hereupon enacted, that no justice or other person whatever shall from thenceforth be admitted to say, that they durst not for fear of death speak the truth; so that no force nor fear can excuse any person, if he shall now declare any fact to be treason, which cannot be warranted by authority of parliament. Therefore leave it upon the conscience of the jury, whether they do believe we are indicted for any breach of any common law, or act of parliament; and if for neither, whether they can in conscience take our blood upon their heads.

26. If the judge pretend, that we alledge not matter of law sufficient for assignment of council, then urge, that the ordinance, whereupon the indictment is grounded, is not pursued: that at the time of the indictment there were not two lawful accusers or witnesses to the grand jury, which ought to be by the law. Or a prisoner may alledge, he is not rightly named in the indictment, or hath not his right title or addition, or the fact is not set down with sufficient certainty, and by some or all these we may get council assigned.

27. If the indictment be for levying war, alledge, that there is no such open deed set down as is sufficient in law, and in such case, desire council to argue it, and endeavour to make our bearing of arms only a riot or unlawful assembly, and not a levying of war; for every bearing of arms in a warlike manner is not by the law a levying of war, as was adjudged in the earl of Northumberland's case, 5 Hen. IV.

28. If we could say we met together upon some private revenge against the sheriff, or some private man, and not for the destruction or reformation of any law of the land, or to oppose any lawful authority, then unless two witnesses shall swear that we did declare some other end, the case must be resolved in law, whether it be a levying war; yet this point must not be insisted on, until the grand point in law be overruled by the court, viz. that the indictment is sufficient in law, notwithstanding it is not grounded upon the common law, or any act of parliament; for we ought to lose ground by inches.

29. If they proceed upon the indictment to give evidence against us, insisting upon it, that the matter of fact be proved by two sufficient lawful witnesses; then let their witnesses depose openly in court face to face, for the law exacts two lawful witnesses in case of treason by statute 1 Edw. VI. and 5 Edw. VI. cap. 11. and 1. and 2. Ph. & Mar. cap. 11. Let the witnesses be strictly examined, and put to swear punctually to the fact, &c. charged in the indictment as the open deed, declaring and levying of war; and that both witnesses swear to the same fact, and at the same time and place, else they are but single testimonies to two facts of the same nature.

30. Insist upon it to make them prove the act or ordinance is a true copy of the parliament roll, and examine them upon oath, whether they examined it by that roll; (for 'tis possible they may have forgot to do it,) alledging that we are not to be tried by every private or printed paper, and demand it may not be read or given in evidence, 'till it be proved.

31. If they offer to prove by any intercepted letters, whereof they have copies, that we levied war, then deny those copies, and demand the originals; and if the originals could (which cannot) be produced, they can never prove them to be any of our hands, if we put them to it.

32. If the commissioners that try us be serjeant Glynne or recorder Steele, or any other, who are not the ordinary judges at Westminster, tell the jury, that these are not the sworn judges of the law, but practitioners and pleaders, servants to the lord protector, and are made judges only for this purpose, to take our lives contrary to law, because the sworn judges refused it. If baron Thorpe comes, he is a sworn judge.

33. If the judges say, that the lord protector is invested with the same power, that the late governors, whether king or parliament, were invested with, tell the jury boldly, that

A. D. 1655. the laws of England cannot be altered but by act of parliament, and therefore there was an act of parliament to change the government from the king, to the keepers of the liberties, anno 1649; but there is no act of parliament since to change the keepers of the liberty into a lord protector, so that there can be no treason to bear arms against the lord protector.

34. Tell the jury, that 'tis now our case, and they know not how soon it may be their own, for many were zealous for the present government, as the jury now can be, who have already felt, and others like to feel, the effect of their new ordinances: how safe and honourable it is for them to stick to the law, rather than take our blood upon them; and instance in John Lilburne's several juries; and if not to acquit us, yet to acquit themselves, by finding a special verdict, which leaves us to law, and lays the guilt of our blood upon the judges; and especially, how dangerous it is for the jury to prove, by shedding our blood, that the lord protector hath a legislative power, and that his ordinances are laws, when the late representative of the whole people in parliament refused to acknowledge them.

35. If indicted for treason upon the 25 Edw. III. for levying war against the king, demand the statute to be read, beg the jury to observe when it is read, and then remember how all kingly government and authority was abolished by the act 1649. of the long parliament; and the protector himself in several speeches declared, he was not, nor would be king. If they bid us shew the speeches, where he saith so, it is in the late speech, Jan. 22, 1654, page 24, and in his declaration in April, 1653, where he saith, he desired the long parliament to prevent monarchy.

Devon. ff. *The names of the prisoners indicted, attainted, and condemned for high treason, in levying war against the lord protector and government, &c. at the general goal delivery holden at the castle of Exeter the 18th of April, 1655.*

On the first indictment.

Vol. xxv.
P. 473.

JOHN Penruddock, of Compton Chamberlain in the county of Wilts, esq; challenged twenty eight of the persons impannelled for the petty jury. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

Hugh Grove, of Chiffenbury in the county of Wilts, gentleman. He also challenged the array. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

Robert Duke of Stuckton, in the county of Southampton, gent. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

Richard Rives of Rimpton, in the county of Southampton, gent. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

Francis Jones, late of Beddington in the county of Surry, gent. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

Thomas Fitz-James, late of Hanley in the county of Dorset, gent. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

George Duke, late of Stuckton in Hampshire, gent. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

Edward Davy, late of London, gent. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

Thomas Poulton, late of Pewsey in Wiltshire, innholder. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

Francis Bennet, late of Killington in Somersetshire, gent. Acquitted by the petty jury.

On the second indictment.

Edward Willis, late of New Sarum in the county of Wilts, innholder. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

Nicholas Mussel, late of Steeple Langford in the said county, yeoman. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

William Jenkins, of Fordingbridge in Hampshire, gent. Confessed the fact on his arraignment.

Thomas Helliard, of Upton in the county of Southampton, yeoman. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

Robert Harris, late of Blanford in the county of Dorset, cordwainer. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

John Biby, of Compton Chamberlain in the county of Wilts, gent. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

John Cooke, of Potterne in Wilts. It appeared upon the evidence, that he was one of those, that took the judges. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

John Haynes, trumpeter. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.
 William Strode, of Wincanton in the county of Somerset, gent. Acquitted by verdict of the petty jury.

A. D. 1655.

On the third indictment.

Henry Collyer, late of Staple Langford in the county of Wilts, gent. Confessed the fact upon his arraignment.

William Wake, late of Blandford, in Dorsetshire, gent. Confessed the fact upon his arraignment.

Christopher Haviland, late of Longton in the county of Dorset, labourer. Confessed the fact upon his arraignment.

Hans Stiver, late of New Sarum, in the county of Wilts, gent. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

James Horsington, alias Huish, late of New Sarum, gent. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

John Giles, alias Hobbs, late of New Sarum, yeoman. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

Abraham Wilson, late of the same, cutler. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

Joseph Collier, late of Steeple Langford, gent. Confessed the fact upon his arraignment.

Richard Browne. Found guilty by verdict of the petty jury.

Nicholas Bradgate, late of Blandford Forum, yeoman. Acquitted by the petty jury.

Marcellus Rivers, late of Benstead in the county of Southampton, gent. The grand jury did not find the bill against him.

26 prisoners condemned.

3 acquitted.

1 ignoramus by the grand jury. viz. Rivers.

Col. Francis Hacker to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

I HAVE sent James Boulter, servant to the lord Grey, who at last came to mee; but some reporte, hee hath beene with the lord Grey lately, but hee denies it. I have at last taken captaine Baldwin, of Markfield in Leicestershire, hidden in a stacke of golfe, with his sword in his hand. I looke upon him as a dangerous person, and intend to send him to Coventry. For I dare not continue here, without a strict guard.

Vol. xxv.
P. 485.

My lord, upon information, that armes was sent to Newstead Abby in Nottinghamshire, I sent a party of horse to search, but found noe armes, but three trunks, which at first none would owne; in which was a new horse colar, and a scarfe, both which I have sent your highnesse, as also the examinations of the parties there seized. I heare sir Richard Byron is come to London, and his sonne is there alsoe, who, I belive, according to my information, did send downe armes. My lord, I thinke London will bee well stocked with cavaleires, for they flock thither very fast. I am

Your highnesse most humble servant,

April 18, 1655.

FRAN. HACKER.

Lady Margaret Clotworthy to secretary Thurloe.

MY GOOD FREINDE,

I HOPE you judge me very patient, that have all this while wayted, and given you noe diversion by mynding you of my busnis, which you may remember, his highnes sayd, should be your fault, if not don. I am now inforced to renew my formare sute, because my lord of Broughill and other gentlemen relating to Ireland are goeing sudinly from hence; and if now my busnis be not reffared by your favour, I mys the oportunity the prayer of the petition suplycats for. Therefore, good sir, remember an ould freinde, with such a mark of your kyndnes, as may oblidg me very much, and noe way prejudis yourself, to whom I remayne

Vol. xxv.
P. 487.

A very affectionat servant,

Martin's Lane, this 18th of Aprill, 1655.

MARGARET CLOTWORTHY.

I have intreated mr. Moreland to put this oportunely into your hands, and hope, that he may sone bring me a good refference from you, which if obteynd, you shall se how moderat my demands for satisfaction shal be.

Lord

Lord Broghill to secretary Thurloe.

WORTHY SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxv.
P. 509.

THIS day seavennight I gave you the trouble of a business of myne concerning my arrears beinge satisfied in mony, accordinge as his highness and the counsell were pleas'd to order it; the perfectinge wherof you did promise to favor me in. But lest som more important affaires might have denyde you the possibility of mindeinge this poor concernment of myne, and knowinge, that visits to a person under such a thronge of business as you are constantly ingaged in, are more troublsome then a letter, I have chosen this way to revive my first desyer. I have a pressinge occasion to draw me out of towne for a few dayes; and I finde my lord protector now soe close at worke, that I may not have the like oportunity again, if this should be omitted. Then I know, when my lord is reddey for the Scotch affaires, he will be hasteninge us out of toune, and I would be loth, that my unpreparedness to goe should looke like my unwillingness. Besides, sir, I have indeed som pryvate things of my owne, which must suffer for want of this mony. Upon the whole, I beg your assistance in my dispatch of that particular, beinge reddey to make over my arrears as you shall appoynt. They tell me, when you have procured my order, I must send downe to the attorney general, before I shall be ripe for a seale; which formallitye, will take up soe much time, that I hope in part that will pleade my excuse for this confidence in,

Sir, your truly affectionate,

Scotland Yard, April 19, 1655.

obliged, and humble servant,

BROGHILL.

I beg you, sir, to let this bearer know, which of your servants he shall address himselfe unto from time to time, to know what is done for me, and what must be done by me.

Beverningk to secretary Thurloe.

VIR AMPLISSIME,

Vol. xxv.
P. 507.

ABsoluta illa generositatis & justitiæ encomia, quibus gratissimæ amplitudinis vestræ me dignatæ sunt, nec facile mihi arrogem, nec libenter despuam, cum jampridem juris & justitiæ sacerdos tenaci satis proposito et totum me devovi eorum exercitio. Illud magis doleo, quod deficiente opportunitate commodâ non satis amplitudini vestræ in eo aut innotuerim aut satisfecerim; simul et illud, quod avidissime arripueram, domini Chiliarchi Lockharti negotium expedita lite e manibus mihi eripuerit religiosa judicum æquitas, ita ut post paratissimum, quem jam testatus eram, animum, nihil potuerim conferre, gavisus tamen, quod intercessione et præsidio nostro non indiguerit. Certè et illi omnibus apertissimè testatum voluissim, quod integerrimo et flagrantissimo erga nationem vestram affectu nulli unquam cedam, et quod amplitudini vestræ mandatis paratissimo semper obsequio quidvis deferam. Quid et illi et serenissimo principi suo debeam, nulla unquam dies, nullus casus oblitterabit. Et si tantum mihi licet assumere, cum submissa manuum deosculatione præsentibus testabuntur tabulæ. Devotus in æternum serenissimæ suæ celsitudinis servitio, & amplitudini vestræ

Datam Amstedolami,
12 Aprilis, 1655.

Ad quævis semper officia paratissimus,

H. BEVERNINGK.

A paper of the senior fellows of Pembroke-Hall in Cambridge, disclaiming their right to choose their master.

Vol. xxv.
P. 515.

WHereas upon the death of mr. Sidrach Simpson, late master of Pembroke-Hall in Cambridge, the fellows of the said college did, according to their statutes, proceed to the election of a successor. Wee, whose names are underwritten, being authorized thereunto by an order of the said college, do, in the name of all the fellows of the said society, acknowledge, that now it clearly appears to us, that our said proceedings were an entrenchment on the right of his highness the lord protector, for which humbly craving pardon, wee do hereby

by quitt all claime, or pretence of claime, to the right of electing, according to our A. D. 1655. statutes, during the naturall life of doctor Benjamin Lany and mr. Richard Vines, ejected out of the said masterhippe, by authority of parliament.

April 20, 1655.

ABRAHAM CLIFFORD.
HENRY SAMPSON.
MARTIN FRANCES.
WILLIAM ABELL.

To his highness the lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging,

The humble petition of Francis Windham, esquire.

Sheweth,

THAT whereas your highness's petitioner is now a prisoner at Bristol, upon an information exhibited against him by mr. John Stradling unto major Botler, of p. 429. which the said Stradling was informed by one John Dowthwayte, that your highness's said petitioner had engaged to conduct a party of horse to destroy your highness's troops, which lately lay at Taunton: your highness's said petitioner doth utterly deny, that ever he was advertised, by the said Dowthwayte, or by any other, of this engagement against the present government, or that he well knoweth the said Dowthwayte; he only knowing two of that name, neither of which he hath seen or spoke with in many years last past; neither hath he ever kept any correspondence by letter, or otherwise, with either of them. Wherefore your highness's said petitioner humbly desireth, that he may be freed from his imprisonment, and return unto his afflicted family; he engaging to render himself a prisoner to your highness, if hereafter he shall be found guilty of the least of any of the aforesaid particulars.

And your highness's petitioner shall ever pray, &c.

An intercepted letter.

SIR,

IT was nine or ten of the clocke on thursday morning, before I was set on shore, for Vol. xxv. that though I made all the haste I could, it was impossible for mee to bee here soone p. 519. enough last night to speake with 182. This morning I sent to him, but hee was gone by seven of the clocke with his wife, some fourteene leagues out of towne, to see a howse, which hee is about to buye, and as I am tolde, will not be heere againe before tuesday next. I am extreemely troubled at it, since, if it bee soe, I shall not only bee hindred this poste, but also the next too, from giving you any perticular account of the businesse. I have sent to him, to let him know I am come, and to desire him to make all the hast hither that hee can. In the meane time I intend to lye heere private, that I may not shew my selfe to 176 before I have concerted all things with 182. Heere are many flying reports of the generall peace, which they say is to be made by the mediation of this new pope, who intends to make it his businesse, and of severall great designes towards other parts, when France and Spaine shall bee agreed. But I cannot thinke fitt to trouble you with them, since I should bee unwilling to say any thing to you, that I could not assure you to bee true. I send you heere inclosed, a bill of exchange for the summe you did me the favour to help mee to at my coming away, for which I give you humble thanks, and desire your pardon for the liberty I tooke in making use of it. I hope by the next to bee able to give you some proofes, that I am not mistaken in what I have sayde to you, as well as that I am very reall in the professions I make, of being the rest of my life, most truly and most entirely,

Sir, your most humble,

Paris, Saturday May 1, [1655. N. S.]

and most faithful servant,

A. ROBERTS.

The supercription,

To mr. John Alexander, in Drury-Lane.

Attorney general Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxv.
p. 531.

I HAVE not of late received any directions from you concerninge oure prisoners, which hath beene much expected by my selfe and the judges, in answere to what I wrote you from Salisburie and Dorchester. I have forborne writinge unto you, because generall Desbrowe said he would doe it, and give an account of passages here, and hath undertaken to doe the like againe, which makes me be the shorter. The juries we finde very well affected, and willinge to dispatche the cavaliers; and the difference amongst them, is to agree most speedilie. We are upon our last bill against the prisoners heare. A list of them, and of those already tried and convicted, you will hearewith receive. Our work, I believe, will not be great att Chard; but what care is taken to have good jurymen there, I knowe not. My lord Rolles went hence yesterdaie, and will not be att Chard; and mr. serjeant Glynn saies, that there is a necessity of his beinge in London before the terme, and soe thinkes he shall be but little att Chard. Justice Windham is expected to meete us there, and I believe baron Nicholas will stave with us. Mr. Recorder is, as I wrote you in my last, to give the charge, and manage the trials there: from thence I suppose we shall all come to London together. Your steward expected to have heard from you, complaineinge he shall want monies, and desires my credite to supplie him: rather than the service or your honoure shall suffer I shall doe it. I shall not farther trouble you, than to render me

Your very humble servant,

Exon, April 21, 1655.

EDM. PRIDEAUX.

The grand jury just nowe brought in their bill against tenn. Rivers was *ignoramus*; his own partie, that accused him, denied it upon their oathe to the grand jury. Henry and Joseph Collyer, William Wake, and Haviland, that claimed articles, after some debate, confessed the indictment, and submitted to his highnes mercy.

Mr. Ja. Nutley to secreary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxv.
p. 527.

I IN obedience to your command, I humbly certify your honor, that the grand jury here although they first made diverse scruples upon the bills of high treason, the chiefest whereof was concerning the statute laws, against which the offence is alleaged to bee committed, what those statutes were, and then how they could bee meant of his highnesse the lord protector; and they having the old statute of 25 Edw. III. and the late ordinance; and it being given in charge by mr. serjeant Glynn very learnedly and fully, that by the statute 25 Edw. III. and the common law, the levying warre against the chief officer of the commonwealth (lett the name be whatsoever) was high treason, and by the word king in that statute must be meant the chief officer (and the beareing of that office) the major part of the grand jury were quicklie satisfied. I was with them all the tyme to manadge the evidence, and untill they privately debated the matter amongst themselves. Divers of the honest men amongst them privately blamed to mee the peevishnesse of their fellowes in making doubts where there was noe cause, and particularly of their foreman, whose name is Cerrington Savory; and truly I found him at first somewhat wilfull, as hee was scrupulous; but hee was overpowered by the rest. They have found three bills against all those prisoners named in the list, which mr. attorney hath now sent to your honor. One of the prisoners, namely Thomas Helliard, at his tryal carryed himself very insolently in the face of the court, saying, what he did was noe other then what he was sworne to doe, professing his allegiance to Charles Stuart, the son, as well as the father; and that there was noe law against it. I observed none of them to expresse any remorse at all, soe much hardened are they even as Pharaoh, as was expresseed by the serjeant in his charge. The people here are well pleased with these proceedings against the rebels. The serjeant in his charge observed their ingratefull returne after an act of oblivion passed, ingratitude being condemned by the very heathen; and their restless spirits to set up an interest, which God by soe many signes and wonders had fought against. Hee likewise observed the care of his highnesse to preserve the people in their lives, liberties, and propertyes, and that this was the only end of his highnesse, not any private end to himselfe. Mr. attorney, in his manadging the evidence, would often inculcate

inculcate to the people, that they might now see, who were the cause of their taxes, and the necessity of continuing them. I humbly take leave, craving your honor's pardon for this over hasty scribbling, being ever

Your honor's in all duty and service,

Exon, April 21, 1655,

JA. NUTLEY.

I had almost forgotten to acquaint your honor, that one major Alford (who was in mr. Love's conspiracy) was of the ground inquest at Salisbury, and was very zealous in his highness's service here, and his good affection and wise carriage here, did much advantage the business. I received much information from him; and in this place (amongst others) one mr. Atkins of Tiverton served of the ground jury here, from whom I had my best information of what was done in private.

Mr. Chr. Barnard to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

ON monday night next mr. solicitor will be at London, and give your honor an account of the business in his care, since my lord Strickland's coming from Doncaster, on thursday, his Lordship, mr. solicitor, and col. Lilburne, thought fitt to send me backe to this place, here to reside untill munday next, to the end it may not be thought the prosecution of this business does grow cold upon their hands, and that there is much probability, that severall of the conspirators, that are fled, may be apprehended before the commission be proceeded in any further; and that they may be all at once tryed for their treason, which I have accordingly given out; yesterday I attended Alderman Dickenson to declare this to him, and he told me, he had apprehended seven more conspirators in this designe, and hath committed them to the gaole, upon suspicion of high treason. Of this, and of the matter of their executions, he tells me, he will give your honor an account by this returne.

Col. Lilburne having accompanied my lord Strickland and mr. solicitor from Doncaster towards Grantham, is returned to Yorke, and is going to his house five miles hence, leaving a servant to receive your letters (if any) to him. I have delivered him a note of two persons, viz. Henry Agar, servant to mr. Lesson, and Thomas Thompson, servant to sir Richard Malevorer, to be examined as to the whole matter; for they say (as is told me) they were both at Hessum-More. These have spoken freely in discourse to some honest men here, confessing they were unadvisedly insnared by their masters.

I intend (upon the agreement in opinion of my lord Strickland, mr. solicitor, and col. Lilburne at Doncaster) to come for London on munday next: my being here is grown publique, and soe more expensive, and I have not in commission whereby to serve you 'till further orders.

I have not presumed to break into particular relations of what hath passed, since I came from you, lest I anticipate what will be delivered to you within a few howers after you receive this by his lordship and mr. solicitor. I am

April 21, 1655.

Your honor's intirely devoted

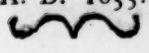
and most humble servant,

CHR. BARNARD.

A letter from mr. H. Daubne at Cadiz.

SIR,

SINCE I had the happiness to receive one from you (which was not 'till about a month since, and the only comfort now in a whole year, that I have received from England) I return'd you present answer by the Exeter merchant, and a duplicat of the same by the Benjamin, both which I hope are by this come safe to your hands. The truth is, that I expected you would before this time have taken some especial order for my necessary supply all this while here, and my better disposition for your service elsewhere, according to the frequent desires and advices I have given you in all my former letters, which, as it seems, to my no little amazement, have for the most part been unhappily miscarried; so I must content myself with that misfortune, and the hopes, that under this new address, which you have given me, our correspondence may be more secure for the future. I have very little to add to what I sent you in my last, but that wee have had this week a sad aviso from the

A. D. 1655.  the Indys, that the galeons, which as I have always told you in my former, were long before this expected here, cannot possibly arrive with us 'till August or September; so we are all at a stand, but most especially I, what we shall doe with ourselves in the mean time. This unhappy retardment has been occasioned by a sad disaster fallen upon their fleet in the South Sea, by the casting away of the admiral of the Armada, wherein were no less, as wee heare, than eleven or twelve millions; but the most part of the plate and merchandize will be saved, though it has thrown the privat adventurers that were aboard into a very great disorder and confusion, some of whome have been drowned endeavouring to swim ashore overladen with theyr gold; but upon the whole, the king is like to be no great looser; for every wise man, uppon the happening of that mischance, presently confessed his plate, and entered it into the king's register, which they thought before to be concealed, and so saved the twenty in the hundred which is his due. By this means likewise the other galeons, that were here ready when I writ my last to set sail from hence, are commanded to stay. This has fallen out very unfortunately for the king's and this country's occasions, which at present wee know require no small summe of money to be advanced; and no less for all us merchants heer, for neyther you, nor any of our principalls there, can expect any considerable returns, till that fleet shall come in; but as for the king, he can shift well enough to supply his occasions out of all the privat purses of his people, as he is now very busily about it; and what mony is in Spayn, he is sure to command it, for his subjects are his asses to beare what burthens he shall please to impose. Our condition though will be very miserable in the mean time, and myn is like to be more necessitous then any man's else, as you may very well imagine, if you doe not very speedily take order to releve it. Heer came in the other day a catch from Portsmouth with some letters and orders for generall Blake, which made no stay heer, but went out immediately to finde him, who, as wee are informed heer, lys with part of his fleet before Tunis, and part before Tripoly, and, but that I strongly presume, this vessel came forth uppon a very suddayn dispatch of state, and was not certayn to put in heer, I should have very much wondered not to receive some orders from you likewise; which till you shall please to send to me, I shall, as I am obliged by your commands, abide heer, though truly the place is very narrow for our busynes, but large enough for expences as any in Spayn, as I have in my former sufficiently informed you, and desired likewise to be transplanted into some sphere of greater activity. Howsoever, I doe humbly submit that, with all things else concerning me and my busyness (which is likewise your own) to your better judgment, to consider and dispose, and shall make use of all occasions here to serve you in the mean time as far as the latitud of this poor place will permitt. Wee are all overjoy'd heer with the news of a breach, that is like to be between our state and France, which the Spaniards are not less pleased withall then wee ourselves, as a thing as much conducing to their advantage as ours (for interest holdes the ascendant with them, as well as with other people) insomuch that they, I meane the people of this place, have changed on a suddayn theyr former darke countenances into all lightfomness, and theyr jealousys they had before of our state's designs, into great honors and loud acclamations, to the glory of his highness, in applaus of his magnanimity, and of our whole nation. And truly I am confident, that they will prove very reall, faythfull and cordiall freinds to our state. Howsoever I doubt not but his highness great prudence will thinke fitt to have an eye to the two spring heads of theyr policy, which I have sufficiently instanced in my former, where the double dealing, if any is, or ever shall be intended, must be discovered, and not in thees remote quarters. This people likewise seeme to be no less pleased with that fayr liberty of conscience, which they heare is given in England to theyr religion, as well as others, which is lookt upon by all heer, as one of the most wise, pious and Christian actions, that this age has produced.

My freind heer, whome you well knowe to be much your servant, for want of better employment, has written some politicall discourses in order to the past, present, and future government of England, which he thinkes may be somewhat seasonable for the satisfaction of some, if speedily published; and he would request your advise, whether he should send his copy to you there, or keep it with him 'till he come himself to kiss your hands. He is likewise about a Latin tract, concerning all forreign negotiations by ambassadours, residents, agents, &c. theyr qualities, dutys, and priviledges, which if he be to stay any time in thees parts, he means to imprint heer, but not in his own name, and dedicate to his highness, if you shall so thinke convenient. Thus in his vacancies from other busynes he is fayne to spend his time, though he could wish he might be so happy as to employ it more profitably to your service, being desirous I am sure of nothing more in this world, then to be better knowne to you, as myself likewise to be,

Sir, your most humbly devoted

Dat: Cadiz, May 2, 1655. [N. S.]

and dutyfull poore servant and factor,

H. DAUBNE.

4

What

What I tolde you at parting concerning the infidelity of the Hollanders is heer loudly spoken by themselves, will prove true, as also that they will associat with them Denmark and Swedland; but the Lord, I doubt not, will make his highness and our state sufficient to withstand them all. I have not heard one word from any friend in England since my being heer, nor can yet be so happy as to knowe whether I have a wife or any children living there; but I cast the care of all that likewise upon the Almighty's and your providence.

I shall send a duplicat of this letter likewise by another ship, that will be ready speedily to go for England, because it is presumed, that passage for letters over land will not be so safe as it has been.

The further examination of Robert Duke, taken by mr. attorney general, April 22, 1655.

SAITH, he was a scholar in Oxford, and after four years time spent there, as soon as the war began, he threw off his gown and bought him a sword, and hath been for the late king throughout the whole war. Saith, he was told by Pyle, the agent, on his first engagement in this late rebellion, that there were three several agents, one for the cavalier party, another for the parliament party, and the third for the army, who were called by a periphrasis the sealed knot; and that they had resolved to take in all interests, and to settle the king; and that it was privately whispered, the protector's interest was not excluded, and that the protector himself had declared his desire, that for settling the nation in peace, the king (meaning Charles Stuart) should be brought in. And this is all of addition he can make to what he said before.

To mr. Petit.

Rome, May 3, 1655. [N. S.]

THE pope continues to do actions, which cause him daily to be more and more admired; he is very pliable to all that is just, and hath set at liberty the count Mar- chio, mr. Bruningo, and some others, which had been persecuted during the late pontificate, and hath thrust his steward out of door for receiving a present. He hath granted the dispensation of wedlock into the first and second consanguinity for 2000 crowns, which is the tax, which had been established by the pope Pius V. instead that by the last pontificate, it was usual to give for those favours ten or twelve thousand crowns, and besides that, bestow several presents. This order has been made by reason of a Portugal, who (having during the last pontificate offered ten thousand crowns for such a favour, which had been refused him) is at present returned hither; and having offered 7000 crowns, his holiness hath regulated the price according to the lowest tax, which has been made thereof, and caused the favour he demanded to be granted him, for those 2000 crowns. His holiness giveth publick audience to those, who demand it, every sunday noon after his devotions, and doth distribute his favours with much generosity to all persons of merit and honesty, no others being credited by him. He doth particularly consider the poor cardinals, intending to let each of them have at least 6000 crowns, having to that purpose re-established cardinal Cecchini in his pension of poor cardinal, which had been taken away from him by Innocent the tenth; but his generosity has more particularly appeared, in giving the archbishoprick of Spoleto to cardinal Fachinetti, who was one of the great opposers to his election, and yet more in granting unto the two cardinals of Medici upon the king of Spain's nomination all the benefices of late cardinal Pimentelli, which had been absolutely refused them by Innocent the Xth.

His holiness has this week received the dismissal of the charges possessed by the princes Pamphilio, Ludovisio, and Justiniani, namely the first, of the charge of general of the church, the second, of that of Castelain of the castle of St. Angelo, and the third, of that of general of the church, his holiness having abolished the first and third, by reason they were of too great cost, and destinated the profit thereof for the Venetians.

Dona Olimpia hath done a prudent action in sending to the pope, by cardinal Gualtieri, all the writs she had had of Innocent the Xth, with intreaties, that he should dispose thereof according to his will and pleasure, which hath much pleased his holiness, who has since told Pamphilio, to reconcile himself with his mother.

It is remarked, that the vice king of Naples, who detained a priest against the nuncio's intention, did put him at liberty as soon as he heard the news of the pope's election.

A. D. 1655: Cardinal Montalto is dead of a glutonish disease; he has left the clearest of his means to one of his servants. The pope did much comfort him in his disease, having given the charge of vice-gerent to his favorite's brother, and having moreover given him leave to make his will, and dispose of part of his benefices. The Spaniards have lost a good friend by the said cardinal's death, and the Medicis seem to be sorry for the same.

His holiness is not yet disposed to call any of his kindred, although there be great necessities thereof.

The pope is to morrow to give the hatt unto cardinal Landgrave.

Turin, 12 May, 1655.

THE prince Philibert, son of prince Thomas, is arrived here few days since, and is to command under his father in quality of general of the horse. The French troops begin to come back hither from their quarters, to begin the field; and it's thought, that as much on this side as in the Modenese, there will be at least 15000 men, without comprizing the troops of the duke of Modena. The governor of Milan makes great preparations, obliging the nobility of the Milanese to contribute each according to their power.

Attorney general Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxv.
p. 561.

YOUR's of the 19th came to my hands the 21st instant at night. I conceive it were necessary his highness's resolution were knowne as speedily as may bee, both in relation to the condemned persons, as also to the rest of the prisoners. The gaole here is very full. Judgment was given upon 26 this morning for high treason; and there are 30, besides those that remayne in prison upon the same insurrection, and besides the country prisoners, which are many likewise; and the hott weather now coming on, if they should any long tyme continue there, it might cause an infection and a disease both in city and country. Mr. serjeant Glyn is this morning gone for London, and intends (God willing) on fryday night, as soon as he comes thither, to wayte on his highness; from whome you may expect and receive a more exact accompt of all the passages and proceedings in this circuit, than can be communicated by letter. According to his highness's directions, signified by your selfe, all the persons, that were in prison upon the accompt of high treason in the gaol of Exon, are continued there, until farther order from his highness, as well those acquitted, as those not tryed, and those condemned; and for those, that were sett at liberty at Salisbury, having then not received directions to the contrary, it was according to the course of proceedings in like cases, done there; but if it shall be judged meete, and directions shall be given accordingly, they may be all returned to prison againe, within the compasse of one day; but it will be held a little hard, since I bailed some of them there, to give in evidence against the prisoners there, and bound them over by recognizances to appeare at this session, to give in evidence against the prisoners here, which they did accordingly, and I could not well have wanted their testimony. Upon receipt of your letter, I sent for Duke, but his sister came not neare mee. I let him know the cause, why I would speake with him; and upon discourse and examination, all that he could say, more then what was conteyned in his former examination (which was only in generall as to the designe, which most of the rest knew and spake of) is in the paper inclosed. General Disbrow has been with us ever since our coming into this country, and to him hath been communicated the way and manner of our proceedings, and the cause of alteration of the indictment; and from him we have received the sense you had there of our proceedings at Salisbury, wherewith (as we believe) he is well satisfied; soe we doubt not but you will receive a good accompt from mr. serjeant Glyn, as also from the rest of us, when we return to London. We have this day liberty to take a little air, and to-morrow goe on towards Chard; as soone as wee have dispatched our busines there, from thence towards London. Having given you this accompt, I crave leave to subscribe my selfe

Exeter, April 23, 1655.

Your very humble servant,

EDM. PRIDEAUX.

Mr.

Col. Morley and Roger Gratwicke to Secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I^N pursuance of his highnesse letters, we have examined Rose, and such others as are conceived might give us any light in this busines, and send the examinations themselves inclosed; and Rose hath obliged himself to be forth-coming any tyme these fourteen days next ensuing, in case he be called for. We submit all to his highnes further pleasure, and remaine

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxv.
P. 549.

Your very humble servants,

Glinde, April 23, 1655.

H. MORLEY.
ROGER GRATWICKE.

SIR,

I shall add this, that Rose hath, by some French and Scotch, that knew not his name, been called Rosse; but he alwaies writt his name Rose, and so did his father, and so doth his brothers, to my knowlege. If you suspect, that any dangerous persons should go from these parts, the best way to prevent it, were to appoynt two nimble small vessels, that might search the shallops at sea; for there will be so many shallops upon these coasts to buy mackerel, that it will be impossible to watch all places.

The examination of Samuel Rose, of Lewis in Suffex, sadler, taken upon oath, Suffex. before us, Herbert Morley and Roger Gratwicke, esquires, justices of the peace of this county, April 23, 1655.

WHO saith, that about the year 1643, he went over into France, and at Diepe and Vol. xxv. Roan he lived thirteen months, and was sent thence by mr. Thomas Sackville to P. 553. Dartmouth, a garrison of the late king's, to fetch three horses he formerly left there, the horses being full of the farcy, and the gentleman, in whose custody they were, being unwilling to send them, the examinee being sent by his friends, to get a livelihood, took pay, and was entered an ensign in the garrison of that town, where he continued till the garrison was taken by the parliament forces, and ever since that time, he hath resided at Lewes, where he now dwelleth; and for the two years last past, he having the French tongue, and trading being dead here, hath endeavoured to drive a small trade into France, for his subsistence and of his wife and children. He further saith, that most of his trading hath been at Diepe in Normandy, and that in these two years he hath been three times there, viz. once in November 1653; the second time, about the latter end of August 1654; and lately he went out of England the 10th day of March 1654; and returned in the Double Shallop the 11th of April 1655, about eleven or twelve o'clock in the night, and landed at New-Haven in this county. He further saith, that the occasion of his last going into France was to clear former reckonings, and to bring away his small estate that lay there into England, for fear of a war likely to arise between England and France, as was very commonly reported and expected to ensue. He further saith, that he brought over with him buckram, French prunes, flax, pedlars bawbles, and canvases of all sorts, and a hogshead of cyder; but he absolutely denieth, that he brought either letters or intelligence, or that he ever held any correspondence with any of Charles Stuart's party since Dartmouth was taken. He also saith, at his last being over he met with very few English, and not any of note; and having no business with them, he did not much converse with them. He further saith, that the reason why he brought his small parcel of goods in a double shallop, was for the more safe passing of himself and goods; and trading being dead, there was very little difference in the price, all being willing to be employed; having landed his goods at Lewes, the shallop fell down to New-Haven upon wednesday the 18th instant; and the tide serving between five and six o'clock in the afternoon, she put off to sea. And the examinee further saith, that he had agreed with the master of the shallop, that after he was at sea, he should that instant tack about to the west, and coast along the shore, near Salt-Deane, or Moore-Stade, where if they saw a light match, they should then come ashore, and take in certain goods, which the said examinee intended to put on board in this private manner, to avoid payment of custom. He further saith, that he offered thirty shillings amongst the company he met with near Moore-stade to the intent to get them hence, so that he might not be frustrated of his intended purpose as aforesaid, but that he never intended to put any passengers aboard. He also saith, that the same shallop came into New-

A. D. 1655. New-Haven harbour again upon friday last, and staid there till the last Lord's day, and went thence empty, with the morning tide, intending to buy mackerel of the fishermen, if any were to be had.

SAMUEL ROSE.

This examination was taken before us, the 23d of April, 1655, at Gluide in Suffex.

HERBERT MORLEY.
ROGER GRATWICKE.

Suffex. *The examination of John Corneford, of Mreching, alias Newhaven, mercer, taken before us upon oath the 23d of April 1655.*

Vol. xxv.
P. 557.

WHO saith, that upon wednesday the 11th of this instant April, a double shallop came in at Newhaven upon mr. Rose's account, and he himself with two other passengers came in the same shallop, and that evening there came three strangers, and lodged at an inn in that town, kept by one mr. Felix Sterne. The examine saw two of the gentlemen and had converse with them, who asked him, if a merchant should desire to bring in or carry out any prohibited commodities, whether money would not blind the officers, to which this examine replied, that there were no such officers in that place, and so their conference ended. One of them was of a middle stature, between 30 and 40 years of age, clad in a black cloth suit, between a white and brown complexion; the other was a tall man with huge black hair, and a faddish grey cloth suit and coat; the third kept close in his chamber, and went by the name of the lawyer, but him the examine did not see. Upon wednesday last the 18th of this April, about six a clock in the afternoon, the same shallop went out again empty, and stood to the east towards Seaford road 'till it grew dark, so that we lost sight of her; then the examine being suspicious that the shallop might turn towards the west upon some ill design, he, with William Ince, and four more, at the request of the officers, went under the cliff upon the coast, till they came to New-way, two miles distant from the haven's mouth, there they met fishermen, who told them, the shallop was gone westward; so the examine desired his company, and he went with them accordingly 'till they came in sight of the shallop, who lay near the shore at anchor; then the examine and his company lay close under the cliff for near three hours, it being about three a clock in the morning; then the mist increasing, they losing the sight of the said shallop, thought fit to go further to the west, and about half a mile off, looking up the cliff Morestade, espied a man leading a horse with a light match in his hand, who descried the company, knowing him to be Samuel Rose of Lewes: when nothing more could be discovered, he saying, that he had lost his way, they let him go up the cliff, and went along with him, and so they returned down again under the cliff, and Rose came the second time to them and offered 10s. to this examine, and 20 more amongst all the company to go home and sleep; if not, he would go home and sleep himself, and then the examine and company struck a light to light a pipe, which the shallop perceiving, came near the shore and spoke to us, and finding upon our answer, that they were mistaken, they went off again to sea. He farther saith, that the examine and his company watched the next night in the same place, and saw the said shallop again, and descried a horseman under the cliff, but who it was he knew not, for the moon being newly risen he discovered us, and made away from us.

JOHN CORNEFORD.

I testify the truth of all, that John Corneford hath herein related, but only what concerneth the passengers.

WILLIAM INCE.

These examinations were taken before us the 23d of April 1655.

H. MORLEY.
ROGER GRATWICKE.

An intercepted letter of Richard White to sir Kenelm Digby.

Rome, May 3, 1655. [N. S.]

I KNOW you have not altogether lost your curiosity to know the affairs of this court; A. D. 1655.
and therefore have sent you here a relation of the last conclave, whereby you may see
whom they have elected pope, a man not known to you, nor a cardinal above three years, Vol. xxv.
but a man, by all most highly esteemed both for sanctity and abilities to govern. p. 563.

I have also sent you a relation, that came but two days since from Naples, of the brave
acts of general Blake, who hath here gained immortal fame both to the honour of the
protector and glory of our nation. Little other news here, saving that they talk of a
great league making by the petty princes of Italy and the Venetians against the Spa-
niard, which I believe will come to nothing.

At the council at Whitehall.

Tuesday, April 24, 1655.

THAT it be offered to his highness the lord protector, as the advice of the council, Vol. xxv.
that his highness will please to pass a proclamation for putting in execution the p. 571.
laws against popish priests, jesuits and popish recusants, according to the form this day
read and agreed.

HEN. SCOBELL, clerk of the council.

A letter from Nismes.

SIR, AND MOST HONORED BROTHER,

YOURS hath prevented me; it is some time since, that I thought to write to you. Vol. xxv.
The synod, which is assembled in this city, hath hindered me till now from execut- P. 575.
ing my design; I have had the honour to be president thereof, or moderator, after I had
been joined to the last. All did pass with great union, and our rules do remain in their
vigour. We expect with impatience the issue of the negotiation of mr. Dury; we
pray to God, that having rather regard to his glory than to our troubles, he would advance
this work. The motives of this business are universally approved of by all honest men.

You shall understand in the mean time, our state and our sufferances, by an historical
and very favourable narration, which I am going to make of what passeth here in the
midst of us. There hath been a shew made, as if they would cause the edict to be exe-
cuted; they sent into the province mr. de Boucherat, counsellor of state, and mr. Escor-
biac, counsellor in the chamber of the edicts at Castres; but you must observe, that they
were nominated at the solicitation of the commissioners of the states of this province
our capital enemies and of the clergy of France; and that in their commission there is
this clause; that in case of parting, the business should be referred, not to the chamber of
the edict, but to the council of his majesty; a clear sign, that since the said commission
did offend the edicts, that there was more cause to fear than to hope, and that we could
not expect any good to come of it. Wherefore this church was of opinion to delay it,
and to oppose it by a publick act; but through misfortune, our opinion and judg-
ment was not followed; and now experience doth shew unto us, that we had right and
reason. I speak of this business, as having negotiated it, conferred with these gentlemen,
and treated with them jointly with other commissioners. They promised us mountains and
wonders; they fed us with hopes, all the requests which we should represent were to be
favourably answered; in short, they offered us nothing but favours and graces, but in
the end, the event hath discovered the cheat, and all these fair words have been but
words in the air.

First, the castle of Portes is a kind of inquisition; there is a prisoner of our religion,
an honest man and without reproach, kept under ridiculous pretences; but there is only
his belief, which doth render him guilty, and the courage, which he hath shewn for the
maintaining of the church, which is the cause of his captivity; the chamber of the
edict hath so acknowledged it. The sentences, which they have given in his behalf, have
been in vain. This poor man hath been kept there these five or six months, nor his wife
nor children suffered to see him. Of late a man of the neighbourhood was imprisoned in
the same place, under pretence, that he hindered his wife from going to hear mass:

Vol. III.

5 L

before

A. D. 1655. before they took him, they seized upon his father, a poor old man very decrepid; although they had nothing to say against the poor innocent, and that his age ought to have moved them to pity, they bastinadoed him and brought him in sight of the castle; in the end, not being able to march any further, they left him upon the place half dead with blows and the long march. As for his son, the prisoner, he was kept fifteen days in a dungeon, where he could not see any light at all, observing a rigorous fast, which neither the religion nor the physician had appointed. There was no body could get to see him, or to administer any food unto him. We presented a petition to these gentlemen for his enlargement, but they put us off with delays, and our cares were in vain.

They made a shew as if they would establish the exercise of our religion at Ville Neuve de Kerck, in Vivares; their answer to the petition presented seemed to be favourable: convinced by the right of these poor persecuted men, they ordered, that two counsellors of the presidial of Nîmes should transport themselves thither, and re-establish the exercise; but they added this clause: *The catholicks heard for a former*. So that what they gave on the one hand, they took away with the other.

The earl of Rieux hath persecuted the church of Vals of late, carrying away those of our religion by force, and sending them to the war; he hath sold them, and made 50 livres of each; that if any one of them revolted, he was sent back to his house. We have spoken aloud of this, and have presented a petition, but they would not grant us a commission to inform our selves, but have sent us to the king. Who doth not see but that is a meer delusion and denial of justice? I should be too long, if I should relate all the injustice, which they have done to the church of Alez, and to that of St. Giles, and many others; but there is one, which doth cry for vengeance, and which is able to make some despair. Florensac, a little city near Montpellier, hath possessed the exercise of our religion since the year 1564. Our last war was the occasion, that it was driven from thence. Never any church had more authentick titles than that hath. They were ashamed to do it injustice publickly; but behold here the depth of Satan; there was a suit at law with the papists; the chamber of the edict had made a partage; these gentlemen go to Castres, where they decide the partage to our advantage; the synod is met; it is resolved to send thither a commissioner of our presidial to examine the said arrest, and re-instate the exercise; a minister of our body is sent thither; they preach without any noise; the minister continueth his charge; all things seemed to be quiet; but on sunday last, when it was time to preach, the papists met and seized upon the place where they were wont to preach, and thrust away those that represented themselves, and so hindered the exercise of piety. A person of reputation of the city, who had the minister in his house, would pacify the tumult, but in vain. At last, those of our religion were to take the house of the said gentleman, and resolved to preach and pray there in his house; they broke open the doors, and plundered all what they could meet withall below stairs; they broke a gentlewoman's arm; they beat the gentlewoman of the house so much, who was big with child, that she miscarried; they sought after the minister, and having found him, they tore off his cloaths, the hair of his head, they gave him many blows; at last a counsellor took him by the collar, and led him with much ignominy out of the city. Thus it is that the arrests are holy; thus they obey the sovereign magistrates; but who is the occasion of all these disorders, but these gentlemen? for in drawing up the arrest, they made no mention of the duke of Uzès, lord of Florensac, who is of the party of those of our religion; so that by a profound artifice they omitted that, which was most essential; whereby it happened, that the officers of the said duke had recourse to the chamber, and have obtained some letters from the chancery, which doth stop the business. Whereupon monsieur d'Vies hath neither been heard nor condemned. In the mean time, this business maketh a great noise; every body is alarmed at it, and several almanacks are made upon it; the people are angry, and I know not how we shall remedy it; we shall do all that we are able to join prudence with zeal, and obtain of his majesty that, which his commissioners have denied us with great injustice. In regard we saw, that they did nothing but delay us, we were at last constrained to follow our advice, and to oppose this commission, which was done a little too late. This is the true condition wherein we are at present; and to lay before you further, that they did only to amuse us, they went from city to city, but they passed as a lightening; instead of remedying upon the places, our complaints, they would not so much as hear them; they only lay at Vies, and coming to this city, they arrived here at two of the clock in the night, and went away the next day before day. Thus they do use us, though they promised to sojourn amongst us, and to pacify some foregoing murmurs and complaints; and from the exercise of the edict, it may be they feared, that we should signify unto them our opposition.

Pamiers, in the county of Foix, is cruelly persecuted, against the tenor of the proper arrests of the council; however, having had recourse to these gentlemen, to re-establish

our religion according to the edicts of his majesty, our fathers had no other answer, only, that they were sent to the king. Is not this to laugh at people, and ought such an answer to be given us by commissioners sent to execute the edicts of the king? God soften the heart of our king, to the end, he may suddenly remedy and redress the injustice that is done us. A. D. 1655.

Nismes, May 4, 1655. [N. S.]

Attorney general Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

WE are come unto Chard, and upon enquire doubt we shall not be able to proceede against many of the prisoners heere, because, though we can prove them to have beene in armes in other places, yet in this county we cannot; they only past through this county, and did not any notable actes; and were taken only by the country-people as straglers, and were not taken in armes. But as against the chiefe we shall proceed, and hope to have cleare evidence against them; and for the rest, we shall not give them an acquittal; but if heereafter they shall be thought fitt to have a proceeding against them, they may be removed to Salisbury, where it will be fullie proved. It's heere reported, the prisoners will petition to be banished, and that the petition is drawinge; but of this I have not any certaintie; only twoe have this daie brought me a petition to that purpose. I desier you will deliver this letter to mr. serjeant Glyn, whoe will waite upon you for it. The grand jury is sworne, but we are not soe confident of them, as in the other countyes; therefore we beginne only with captain Hunt, against whom there is cleare evidence. I am

Your most humble servant,

Chard, April 25, 1655.

EDM. PRIDEAUX.

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

IN my last I did acquaint you, that lieutenant general Ludlow was suddenly to come for England; and though I had no orders to the contrary, yet feareing, that his highnes might judge it inconvenient for his present coming into England, he hath renewed his former parole to the 10th of September next, but he hath some concernments of his owne, by reason of his being out of pay, and the breaking up of his familye. I desire to know his highnes pleasure, whether I may not dispenſe with him for some moneths, to goe into England; but whilst he doth remaine heere, I thinke I can doe no les than give him halfe pay during his detainment, haveing nothing in this nation but his custodium: I should be glad to receive directions heerein. I have one request to you, that the under places to the foure courts, which wee have power by our instructions, may not be disposed of to any in England, for that there are many, who have served the state, and on the reducement of the civill list, and others that are out of imployment, and deserving in this nation, wil be whollye disappointed, if not provided for in the places belonging to the courts; for many may crowde into places for Ireland, which may be thought unworthy of imployment in England. Your care of us is the request of

Your humble servant,

April 25, 1655.

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

The case of Richard Wiseman, chirurgeon, now prisoner in Lambeth-house, truly stated.

Humbly presented unto the consideration of the honorable John Thurloe, esquire, secretary of state.

Sheweth,

THAT about a fortnight before Christmas, I undertook the cure of mr. Read, now prisoner in the Tower, and at the time of his commitment had well nigh perfected it. That some three or four days after Read's confinement in the Tower, he sent for me by

A. D. 1655. by one Steers a warder, to dress him, which I declined, and only ordered my servant to send him some emplaster; but he not being satisfied therewith, the next day by the said Steers sent me a note, earnestly pressing me to go to him, which I totally declined, and had continued that resolution, had not the said warder afterwards earnestly pressed me thereto, telling me, that I had the lieutenant's leave, and that it was very usual, and the like; whereupon I promised, and the next day accordingly I did go to the Tower, and was by the said Steers conducted to mr. Read, did dress him, and had some common discourse with him in the presence and hearing of the said Steers, and at my departure, was desired by mr. Read to receive some money for him of sir Thomas Mackworth that was indebted to him, with order to retain it into my hands for his use; which I was the rather induced to do, in order to my satisfaction for my cure, mr. Read being a prisoner to whom I had no obligation. That I was not with him above four times, and only in relation to his cure; and that I once sent my servant with emplaster and pills, touching which I supposed both myself and servant had given the lieutenant of the Tower satisfaction when we were first examined and by him dismissed, to which I must refer. That upon my return home I applied myself only to my calling and practice, not so much as suspecting any farther trouble or discourse about Read, or any thing in relation to the state; but contrary to my expectation, upon the 12th of March the said Steers brought me a note from Read, which he said required privacy, whereupon reading it, I was so extremely surprized, that I scarce knew what to do or say; but recollecting myself, I asked Steers, if he was resolved to carry mr. Read away, who answered yes; at which my passion greatly increased, and I demanded of him, why mr. Read should send him to me, I had no obligation at all, I had taken much pains in curing him, and was yet unsatisfied; further telling him, that mr. Read had put me to too much trouble, and brought me under a suspect already, and therefore for my part I was resolved not to hazard my liberty any farther in relation to him. Then Steers desired me to advise him: I asked him, if he apprehended no hazard in the attempting an escape, he told me yes; I wished him to have a care what he did; for my part he had surprized my senses with the very mention of it, that I could not tell what to advise; but if he would come the next day at twelve of the clock, I would consider of it, and advise him; whereupon the said Steers (as is evident) having designed by all means possible to ensnare me, began to enquire of me of news; whereupon I told him what was reported touching the rising at Salisbury, which I had from common fame and printed papers, and not by reason of any particular knowledge of the design. Then the said Steers pressed me to write to mr. Read, which I often denied; but at length to be rid of his importunity, I delivered him 5l. which I had received for mr. Read, and on a small piece of paper I writ (as I remember) thus; Sir, those pains you complain of will easily discuss, and so will that pain in your head, without the taking a course of physick; and so without setting my name to it, I gave it him, saying, that there was an answer to so much of the note as concerned me; whereupon he departed, leaving me to my consideration, which was as followeth; 1st, I considered, if Steers should carry away Read, I having been under a former question, should still lye under suspect, if not be troubled by the lieutenant. 2. That they might be taken, and then their confession would render me guilty. 3. That if on the other side I should discover their intention to the lieutenant, although it would clear me, yet it would prejudice me in my practice which was my livelihood.

Thus finding myself insnared, I was at a loss how to get out of the toil: at last I resolved not to have to do in the business, and accordingly, when Steers came, I advised him to cheer Read up, and to let the law take its course; positively telling him, I would have nothing to do with him, or the business; and therefore forbade him any more to come to my house; further saying, when I had any business with him, I would send for him. But the said Steers, in farther prosecution of his design to ensnare me, would not be satisfied, but that I must write to mr. Read, otherwise he pretended it would not be believed he had been with me. Whereupon I wrote upon a piece of paper; Sir, this piece of emplaster will, I hope, finish this cure, and so I shall not trouble you farther. I am your servant, R. Wiseman. And that the contents of these two notes are all that ever passed betwixt the said Read and myself upon any account since he hath been my patient or before, I do call the great God to witness, and shall venture my life upon that issue, whatever great crimes are suggested against me by the designers of my ruin.

That since my imprisonment, the said Steers hath been with me to prosecute his design, although his declarations, in the hearing of credible witnesses, tended to my clearing; the particulars whereof are too long to insert, but in due time will be produced.

That I have been about a month a prisoner, have totally lost my practice, and my family must submit to an irrecoverable ruin, if this imprisonment be continued upon me, for a punishment for a failing, into which I was designedly drawn; although I have

cause to hope, that my ignorance in concealing a pretended, but never intended design, shall not be made use of to my ruin; neither that upon suppositions grounded upon my former relations, I shall be concluded guilty. A. D. 1655.

I therefore most humbly pray your honour, to take the premises into your serious consideration; and that, if it stand with your wisdom, I may be freed from this chargeable restraint upon security, as well to answer any crime that can legally be proved against me, as that I shall do nothing to the publick prejudice.

For which I shall pray.

Rt. WISEMAN.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning.

From the Buys, May 6, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Colen

I AM gott thus far on my journey for the Spaw 1016, where I hope to finde Vol. xxv. benefit from the waters. I am sorry you will not folowe my advise, for just now p. 593.

I had ne wee s that ON ei l was ef ca pe d and att the
324. 86. 522. 136. 343. 498. 411. 350. 353. 66. 43. 293. 160. 517. 334. 460. 372.
Ha ge you must be ca re fu l

72. 365. 570. 354. 111. 293. 40. 295. 353. which calls me thither, and I am confident
Sir T. B lo there fir Fr. Vi. n c ent
to find benefit by it. 148. 176. 41. 493. 442. 148. 225. 387. 424. 219. 434.
C ol. Ad am B ro w n were en ga ge d. Ga r di ne r
251. 383. 124. 278. 41. 217. 597. 424. 164. 406. 337. 365. 531. 337. 566. 587. 522. 580.
now your pr if on er know s it

89. 598. 216. 73. 411. 476. 311. 343. 129. Sir, I have not now time or conveniency
to give you a more ample accompt of your goods. I hope my last have bin satisfactory,
wherein you may take my advise, and assure your self of the reality of every perticular
adjusted in the accompt, as also of my intentions to serve you in putting off your com-
odities. Soe expecting to heare from you, I am,

Sir, your fervant,

ZACHARY JOHNSON.

Your de cl are ing a pe na l tie on an y who ha r
598. 573. 391. 404. 562. 54. 146. 466. 367. 191. 411. 292. 500. 304. 72. 580.
b or the pe rf on s I have na m ed to you will be off
55. 481. 372. 160. 245. 411. 343. 324. 100. 466. 60. 238. 177. 570. 346. 111. 313.
hi gh ad va nt ag e
226. 379. 124. 275. 494. 166. 196. Once more lett me intreate you to fend me
weekly the diurnalls.

The superscription,

For mr. Jeremiah Joslin, these, London.

At the council at Whitehall.

Thursday the 26th of April 1655.

UPON report made by colonel Jones, from the committee appointed to peruse the Vol. xxv. ordinance touching the chancery; ordered, that it be offered to his highness, as the p. 597. advice of the council, that his highness would be pleased to appoint six persons to be masters of the chancery.

HEN. SCOBELL, clerk of the council.

Masters of the chancery in ordinary now living.

April 26, 1655.

A. D. 1655.
 Vol. xxv.
 p. 599.

THOMAS Bennet, doctor of the law, 11 Car.
 William Child, doctor of the law, 14 Car.
 John Sadler, esquire, 20 Car.
 Edwin Rich, esquire, 21 Car.
 Edward Eltonhead, esquire, 23 Car.
 John Bond, doctor of the law, 1650.
 Robert Keyleway, esquire, 1651.
 Thomas Elcourt, esquire, 1652.
 Nathanael Hubbart, esquire, 1652.

A remonstrance on the behalf of his highness James duke of Courland, to his highness Oliver lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging, &c.

Sheweth,

Vol. xxv.
 p. 605.

THAT in April 1653. a ship called the Leopard (whereof Claes Frederickson was then master) was set out from Courland by the said duke, upon his own account, to Amsterdam, where the said ship was, by the agent of the said duke, laded with copper bars and other merchandizes, which upon account of the said duke was carried to Guinea, and most of them there traded away and disposed of; and negroes were there taken on board. And the said master there dying, Cornelius Frederickson became master of the said ship, and sailed with the said ship and negroes to Martinna (being a French plantation in America) where the said negroes were landed and disposed of, and some small quantity of goods there taken in, for the said account; and afterwards the said ship set sail for Amsterdam, being the port of her discharge, there to unlade the same; and in her passage touched at St. Christopher's, to look for company; and there the said Cornelius Frederickson dying, the company were forced to stay there some small time, to bury the said master; which being done, and another master provided, as also some fresh water taken in there, the said ship departed, in company of two other ships; and during the said time of her being there, the said ship did not at all trade, buy, sell, or barter any thing.

That the said ship, in her course homeward, was by foul weather separated from the said other two ships, and coming for Amsterdam, the master and company mistook their course, through darkness of the weather, and so were put into St. George's chanell, and then discovering where they were; and their sails and tackle being torn with storms, and their victuals and provisions all spent, they went with the said ship for Bristol (being a friend's port) there to procure victuals, provisions, and necessaries, without which they could not sail; intending (being so supplied) immediately to depart with the said ship and lading for Amsterdam.

That upon the said ship's arrival in Kingroad, the said ship and lading (which is small) were seized at Bristol, by one mr. Gill, an informer, upon or about the 5th of December 1654, upon feigned suggestions, that the said ship had traded at St. Christopher's, and all her company landed out of her; and is still detained under the said seizure, to the prejudice of the said duke, the loss of the voyage homewards, and the undoing of the company of the said ship.

That your highness, taking the premises into consideration, would be pleased to order, that the said ship and lading aboard her be released from the said seizure, that so she may with her lading sail to her designed port of Amsterdam, &c.

Indorsed,

*Delivered to the honorable secretary Thurloe,
 in April. 1655.*

General

2

General Venables to lieutenant general Searle governor of Barbados.

SIR,

THE commissioners haveing this day beene with mee, wee at last came to some A. D. 1655.
 resolves concerning our store-ships, wherein I did wholly concurre with them; but
 had not time to stay to signe the same, when it was faire transcribed, but doe earnestly
 desire you, to value this letter, as if my hand had beene joined with theirs. My service
 to your ladye, with the rest of my freinds. I have had a fluxe for these twelve dayes,
 but hope it now beginneth to stop; if not, you may bid adieu unto,

April 28, 1655.

Sir, your very affectionate servant,

R. VENABLES.

The superscription,

*For the honourable lieutenant generall Searle,
 governor of Barbados, these.*

General Monck to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

HAVEING received a letter from your highness, by the earle of Linlithgow, concerning Vol. xxv.
 the earle of Calander, I have enquired of the judge advocat, what is against him; p. 631.
 and the judge advocat informing me, that hee knowes of noe more then is contained in
 the two inclosed letters, I thought fit to send the gentleman to your highness, which I did,
 and hee is now on his way to your highness. What more there is against his lordship,
 col. Lilburne (in whose time his confinement was appointed) can inform your highness.
 If your highness should thinke fit only to fine him, I humbly desire your highness, that
 very good engagement may bee given for his peaceable liveing. I humbly take leave,
 and remaine

Your highness's most humble

Dalkeith, April 28, 1655.

and faithfull servant,

GEORGE MONCK.

Extract of a letter from Lyons, dated May 8, 1655. N. S.

THE persecutors having at the first assault of the Piemontese lost most of their Vol. xxv.
 men, through the couragious resistance of ours, they lost all hope of effecting their p. 609.
 design by open force. Their general dissembled his ill will, and made a shew, as if he
 had received order from his prince to spare those poor people, and to promise them, on
 his behalf, abolition of all that was passed, provided that, for the future, they would be
 more retired and better subjects, and upon condition that they would presently give way
 for the quartering of the troops as well of his majesty as of his royal highness, in their
 valleys, which lay near Pignerol; whereupon, those of the Valleys having consulted, they
 were advised to accept of this unhappy condition, which they did; and as soon as those
 troops were got into the places, that were designed them for quarters, they had orders to
 seize upon all the passages and to destroy ours, which they were ready to execute, by reason
 of the plunder which they expected; so that they killed, destroyed and plundered, all
 that they met withall, without any distinction of women or children. Mr. Saul de Rosuane,
 as godly a man as ever I knew, with three more elders of the church, were hanged up in
 the Tour; 18 men were carried prisoners to Turin, amongst whom is mr. Gros, a
 minister. Those, that could escape this desolation, saved themselves upon the territo-
 ries of Dauphiné, where they are expecting a favour, and liberty to return home, which
 is made them to believe, they shall receive from the prince.

The

The syndick and council of Geneva to the canton of Zurich.

Magnificent, mighty, and most honoured lords, good neighbours, singular friends,
most dear allies and confederates.

A. D. 1655.

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

YOUR lordships having given us to understand the desire, which you have, that we should communicate unto you what we should learn of news concerning the reformed churches of the vallies of Piedmont, we send unto you the extracts and memorandums here inclosed, which contain the particulars of the most horrid massacres and cruelty, which barbarism ever invented, which have been exercised upon the inhabitants of the said churches, with a total desolation of their houses, and of their churches; to the end your lordships might make such convenient reflections, according to your singular prudence. We pray to Almighty God, in the mean time, that he would be pleased to hear the cries and groans of his children, appease his anger kindled against them, and preserve his church in general, and your lordships and their state in particular, in happy peace and prosperity; remaining

Magnificent, mighty, and most honoured lords, good neighbours, singular friends,
most dear allies and confederates,

This 8th of May, [1655.]

Your most affectionate neighbours,
friends, allies and confederates,
to do you service.

The syndick and council of Geneva.

The superscription,

*To the magnificent, mighty, and most honoured lords,
the lords, burgomasters and council of the city
and canton of Zurich, our good neighbours,
singular friends, most dear allies and confederates.*

An extract of the fact.

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

THE marquiss of Pianese having oftentimes reiterated to the commissioners of the churches with asseveration, as they affirm it, that upon the parole of his royal highness, and his own shewing a sign of confidence and obedience in the reception of some regiments, there should be no displeasure done unto them, he was suffered to come in without any resistance whatsoever, hoping so much the more, in regard those places were comprehended in the order published, and no wise disputed for habitation, but those of St. John, who had all their goods and families at Angrogne, and for whom there was no quarter, fled thither to save their wives and children, which those of Angrogne did likewise, who presently perceived the treason, and how they observed their faith to pretended heretics. They also kept prisoners the commissioners of St. John and Angrogne, who went to speak with him upon his parole. For as the troops agreed unto did march that way that was ordered, three or four thousand men more fell in on the other side of La Tour, firing and killing all that they could meet withal, and causing the houses of Angrogne to flame before that the rest were arrived in the centre of Angrogne, which they had chosen for their quarter. The same did the other troops on the side of St. John towards Bricheras, and in many places of that of La Tour, as long as they could see. Amongst so many violent assaults, so many attacks, deceits, and such black treachery, and all the houses and churches flaming or smoking, there was heard nothing but cries, and lamentable groans and sobs, rendered the more pitiful through the multitude of echoes, which are in the rocks. The mother hath lost her sucking child, the brother his brother, the husband his wife; some were miserably massacred whilst they were busy to save some little of their goods, others lost upon the tops of the mountains, were flung down into the hollow places of the rocks, and many women with child were found dead with their fruit for want of food.

The next day the 21st the boutefeux and murderers were not idle. A frier of the Franciscan order and a priest, who would have the honour to be the chiefest incendiaries, with their artificial fires, being able to do it at their ease, did not fail to burn the church of St. John, and almost all that did remain of the rest of the houses, a part of Angrogne, and the rest of La Tour; and where they found any thing, that had escaped the first firing, they presently caused it to be wholly burnt down; and the bloody and cruel soldiers got

got upon the highest rocks, which did seem inaccessible, to destroy all human creatures which they should meet withall, though they made no resistance whatsoever, and might have caused with their tears the arms to have fallen out of the hands of the most barbarous Tartars and Canibals. Only at Tailleret, a village situated upon one of the highest hills of La Tour, they did put a thousand reproaches upon 150 women and children, and afterwards they cut off all their heads; they caused some of them to be boil'd, and eat the brains, but they discontinued saying, they were too tasteless, and made them sick at heart. They cut some pieces, which they afterwards flung at one another, from a poor woman, who got away from them, and who is still living, but miserably used by them; they took her sucking child, and went and flung it down a precipice with many others. There was likewise a great number which were torn and cut off by the middle between two soldiers. Many prisoners were stript stark naked without distinction of age or sex, and they cut them after a manner, which doth cause one to tremble to recite it; and afterwards put salt and powder upon them, and then put on their shirts again; and afterwards set fire to the powder, and so burnt those poor martyr'd bodies. Others, all naked, had their heads tied between their legs, and rolled off of high precipices, without exempting one Peter Symon, who was a hundred years old, nor his wife, ninety-five years old. Many were burnt in their houses, whom they would not take the pity to kill beforehand, though they did beg it upon their knees. Others had their breasts opened, and their hearts taken out alive. Many had their private parts cut off, and their entrails pulled out. Several women were most wickedly abused by them, till they died. Others were hanged up in trees by the feet, and there left to die in that posture, had stakes thrust in at their fundaments, &c. Of those, who were conducted alive before the marquis, who would not abjure their religion, a good number were brought to Turin, and amongst the rest, mr. Gros and mr. Aggit, pastors; and that, after they had seen with astonishment the admirable constancy of Paulais, and Clement a poor countryman, the latter an ancient deacon of the church of La Tour, the former having chosen the gibbet before the mass, the other two were brought after him, to frighten them; but as he was on the top of the ladder, and that the emissaries did renew their exhortations, saying, that there was still time, if he would turn catholick, he bid the hangman do what he was ordered to do; praying to God to pardon those murtherers; adding, that he saw as present the vengeance that God would take for so much innocent blood that had been spilt. The pen doth fall out of my hand in writing these things; yea, by only bringing of them into my mind, my whole body doth tremble, my hair stands an end. A heart of diamond, a hand of steel, and pen of iron, could not express half of the horrid prodigies of the cruelty and pitiful spectacles which were seen, unheard of in antiquity the most barbarous. You might have seen here the leg of a woman, the head of a child, sometimes the private members of a man, the entrails of another, the thighs of another, which the beasts had not devoured. The tears do blind my sight, and the sobs, that fall between, do hinder me from making an end. Of the spoil, that was made of provisions, of wine spilt by them in abundance, of the beasts and the plunder we do not speak a word. French, Irish, Piedmontese, banished and guilty persons have shared that amongst them; and that which could not be carried away, was burnt. And they are almost as miserable the one as the other, in the vallies of Perouse, Clusson and Keiras; some wandring with their wives and children in a miserable condition, and others lamenting the loss of theirs. Val Lucerne, which is destroyed, did comprehend three churches, each, except Rocheplate and Roras which were smaller, composed of three or four thousand men.

A copy of a letter writ by monsieur Servient, ambassador of his majesty in Italy, to the governor and the consuls of the city of Pragela.

My lords, the consuls and governor of the city of Pragela,

I WRITE to you these lines, to let you know, that his royal highness, being unsatisfied of some inhabitants of the valley of Lucerne, not only for opposing his orders, but also for making others directly contrary unto them, by an attempt full of insolence, hath resolved to have that obedience, that is due unto him; and in regard the inhabitants are of the reformed religion, and that possibly they might demand of you some private assistance, I have to tell you, that if you should therein offend the first cousin german to the king, and who is in his interests, you would incur his majesty's indignation. After this consideration, all others seem useless. I shall not fail to let his majesty know, how you shall behave your selves herein, believing that you will continue to oblige me to be your affectionate to serve you,

SERVIENT.

Turin, April 14, 1655. [N. S.]

VOL. III.

5 N

Resident

Resident Heinfius to the states general.

Stockholm, May 8, 1655. [N. S.]

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxv.
p. 623.

MY lords, they are still endeavouring here to find out means for the raising of monies to carry on the designs of this campaign, and to this end they have raised the imposts and customs upon all merchandizes and commodities; also they have set an imposition of half a rix dollar upon every last of every ship, that goeth out or cometh in, which will amount to a very great sum of money in the year.

They are now making all things ready for the campaign: their design is now said to be against Poland. The ceremonies of the queen's funeral are to be upon the $\frac{13}{14}$ of this month.

Avangour to Bordeaux, the French ambassador England.

Stockholm, May 8, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxv.
p. 619.

AFTER a long silence your welcome letter hath refreshed us all here, giving us again new hopes of a conclusion, which is as much desired by this court as by ourselves. They make no doubt here but all things will end to your content.

The ambassador of this court, who is designed for England, is preparing himself to depart very suddenly; and every body here is preparing likewise for the campaign. The king of Sweden himself will not be long here. His armies both by sea and land being now in a readiness, one may now declare, without any fear or scruple, that the design of the Swedes is intended against Prussia. They do hold their conquest so sure, that what offers soever should be made unto them from Poland for an accommodation, will hardly be accepted of, they imagining to themselves a greater advantage by a rupture, than any that can be obtained by a peace. So that, my lord, I perceive all our offices for that end have been in vain, and we must expect another conjuncture to employ the mediation of the king. This design will make you to judge of the necessity and interest, which the crown of Sweden hath to make a strict league with England, and to assure themselves of their power to oppose others, that might be jealous of them, and that would undertake to intermeddle.

A letter of intelligence.

Vienna, May 8, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 222.

YOURS I received by the last, and now we are all here by them and other letters satisfied, that R. C. his designs are come to nothing, and all the risers taken or pursued. God knows, our news not long since have been quite otherwise, as I writ you, but now *omnes conclamant infelicem R. C. cum omnibus suis.*

Here is very little news since my former. Of the coronation of the archduke Leopold here is very little appearance, the differences are so many and so great, as I writ to you in my former letters. The protestants and the catholicks cannot agree, which displeaseth highly the emperor.

To morrow his imperial majesty is to go a hunting to a house some three leagues from Presburg, belonging to count Palfi Palatin, called Marec. The Spanish ambassador goes with him, who lately feasted most gallantly all the principal nobles of Hungary.

The count of Schomberg endeavours to engage many persons of quality in the Palatinate for the service of the king of France.

Prince Rupert expects the monies from Italy promised to him for the levies he makes for the duke of Modena.

Of the Swedes I have nothing this week, nor of the Polacks considerable; wherefore I pray accept of what is from,

Sir, your's.

The

The Dutch East-India company to the protector.

SERENISSIME, &c.

Quandoquidem societatis Belgicæ, quæ in Indiis ad orientem mercatur, curatores è re esse censuerunt in Angliam ablegare consultissimum et prudentissimum virum Petrum van Dam, ejusdem societatis advocatum, ut ibidem negotia quædam illorum nomine susciperet, quæ ad mutua tam Anglicæ quam Belgicæ societatum commoda spectant, non potuimus non dicto ablegato hæc præsentis literas nostras ad celsitudinem vestram, tanquam fidei testeras, impertire; rogantes, et celsitudo vestra illum benigno suo favore et gratiâ amplecti dignetur. Quod nobis omnino gratissimum erit, semperque conabimur illud mutuis officiis erga celsitudinem vestram agnoscere.

A. D. 1655,

Vol. xxvi.

p. 51.

Serenissime, &c. Hagæ Comit. die 9^o Maii, 1655. [N. S.]*Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to secretary Thurloe.*

SIR,

I Understand by the relation of that gentleman, whom I this morning sent unto yourself and my lords the commissioners, to the end that they would be pleased, according to that assurance that they had given me on thursday last, to give me a meeting, and so to put an end to the treaty, that instead of answering my expectation in that particular, they had thoughts of changing one article which before we had fully agreed to, and wherein also it is not in my power at all to make any alteration.

Vol. xxv.

p. 637.

This proceeding of theirs having made me something apprehensive of some new delays (which the commands that I have received from France by the dispatches of this day will not at all permit me to consent to) I thought myself obliged, for prevention's sake, to give you to understand, that since my accommodating myself to those very expressions, which his highness desired, viz. in those articles, which were in debate, and my agreeing to such conditions as were not to be found in any treaties of a strict alliance, and also such as were derogatory to the laws of the kingdom of France, observed by other nations for above a hundred years, and from which we have never departed in any treaty made with England; as also that compliance, which the king my master has shewed for the satisfaction of his highness, and the great desire, which he has testified of establishing a perfect understanding with England, has produced no other effect than such daily pretensions, which may not unfitly be termed unjust, since that they are both contrary to the customs observed between France and their allies, and also to that demand, which was lately made to me, and the resolutions taken in the last conference.

I cannot look upon these motions of the lords the commissioners about this matter, as any other than a meer pretence for the delaying and prolonging of the taking of my leave of his highness; and I hope that his highness will not believe, that I have wrote unto you for the passing of the article as it has been proposed unto me by reason and example, without mentioning, those states which treat upon equal terms, and receive a reciprocal advantage by the peace; but for the fulfilling of his majesty's commands, whose affairs and honour would be much prejudiced by my long delay in England without accommodation, and by a treaty, which would hinder him of an opportunity of disadvantaging his enemies; of which I would also intreat you to certify his highness, to the end, that if his highness think it for his interest to comply with those offers of amity, which have been made unto him by the king my master, he would not recede from his own voluntary forwardness in that particular, so much to the prejudice of France; and also give order to the lords the commissioners to make a final determinaton of the said treaty. I am,

London, 9 May, 29 April [1655.]

Sir, your's, &c,

DE BORDEAUX.

The Spanish ambassador to the protector.

MOST SERENE LORD,

THE king my master having given me order to pass out of hand into Flanders, it grieveth me, that your highness hath not been pleased to give way, that I might make you reverence before the performance thereof; and it not being in my power to defer

Vol. xxv.

p. 645.

A. D. 1655. defer my journey any longer, I find myself obliged to perform this office, and to take my leave of your highness by writing, desiring you to believe, that my affection towards your service and the welfare of this nation remains still very conformable to what hath hitherto appeared in me at all occasion. God preserve your highness.

[London, { 10 May, }
 { 30 April, } 1655.]

The Spanish ambassador to the protector.

Ser^{ma} señor,

Vol. xxv.
p. 659.

HAvendose presentado el decreto (cuya copia autentica va inclusa) a los comisarios de prefas para que en conformidad del, restituyessen los 30000 reales contenidos en la cedula aneja, dilataron la resp^a todo este tiempo, y la que dan aora es, que no pueden satisfazer dicha suma, porque no ha llegado a su poder, sino llevados a la Torre, y acuñados con otras partidas de plata, por orden del consejo de estado que entonces era. Con que me hallo obligado a recurrir a V. A. y suplicarle se sirva de mandar luego se restituyan dichos 30000 reales que hazen patacones 3750 que valuados cada uno a esquelines 4—6. conforme a la certificacion aqui inclusa del precio a que corre, firmada de diversos mercaderes de esta plaza, son 843 l. 15 esquelines de esta moneda; y siendo esta plata del rey mi señor, como consta por dicho decreto no puedo dudar de que V. A. dará fin ulterior dilacion las ordenes neces^{rias} para que se restituya. Deviendolo esperar de la justicia de V. A. cuya ser^{ma} persona g^{de} Dios muchos años como deseo.

Londres, { 10 de Mayo, }
 { 30 de Avril, } 1655.

Serenissimo señor,

B. l. m. de V. A. su m^{te} serv^{or}

Don Alonfo de Cardenas.

Inclosed in the preceding.

Vol. xxv.
p. 93.

WE the merchants undernamed, residing in London, doe heereby certifie, that peeces of eight of Mexico coyne have beene usually sold heere in London at any time for these three months past, for four shillings and sixpence English money for every such peece of eight, or more; and at the same price wee know they are now usually sold, and not under. Witnesse our hands, the 4th of April, 1655.

PETER VANDEPUT.
GILES VANDEPUT.
GERARD VANHEYTHUYSEN.
JAMES STANIER.
JOHN GARDNER.

The protestant cantons of Swisserland to the states general.

Illustrissimi & præpotentes domini, domini nostri plurimum observandi,

Vol. xxv.
p. 404.

TRiste jam nuncium accipientes de luctuosissimo statu fidei sociorum Pedemontanorum, ut ex copia literarum à ibi pastoribus & senioribus missarum percipere licet, per sanctæ fidei unionis ac communionis jura deesse noluimus; quin etiam illustrissimas ac præpotentes dominationes vestras participes redderemus, certissima spe fulti, ipsas pro solita quâ sunt pietate et Christiana charitate, scissuram hanc Josephi curæ omnino cordique maximè habituras esse. Affingitur huic persecutioni prætextus omnino plausibilis a parte contraria: interim tamen de ecclesiâ Christi bene sentiens, de technis, quas adversarii moliuntur hinc inde, quis dubitabit?

Ex verâ cordiali omnino ac calidissimâ sympathiâ condolentes et commoti rogamus iterumque rogamus dominationes vestras illustrissimas ac præpotentes, velint causam afflictorum in modum curæ cordique ut non dedignentur, quæ ipsis pro sua quâ pollent et prudentia et potentiâ, ad sublevandum ac salvandum miseros et afflictos illos præter ardentissimas, quæ pro iis ad patrem misericordiæ suscipiendæ preces et stipem, quam efflagitant, eleemosynariam, vel pacificando illos apud principem

principem suum, vel transmigrationis concessionem conducibilia quæ videbuntur A. D. 1655.
media afferre, sicut et nos pro virili nostra non deerimus. Summus ille rerum arbiter
misereatur ecclesiæ suæ ubique locorum, rem ejus agat, omniaque adversa ac sinistra
potentissimo brachio suo avertat.

Cujus divinæ protectioni dominationes vestras animitus commendamus.

Dabamus raptissime ad diem tricesimum mensis Aprilis anni M. D. C. lv. sigillo civi-
tatis Tigurinæ secretiori munitas,

Illustriſſimarum ac præpotentium dominationum vestrarum studiosissimi,

*Consules ac senatores cantonum Helvetiæ evangeli-
corum, nempe Tigurini, Bernensis, Glaronensis,
et Abbatis-cellarii.*

A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.

Rome, { $\frac{1}{10}$ May } 1655.
 { $\frac{1}{10}$ April }

CARDINAL Montalto's death hath caused many processes to be made touching his suc- Vol. xxv.
cession; but the greatest losers are his creditors, by reason that he is found so much p. 649.
indebted, that his means will not suffice to acquit the same. There are two pretenders
to the archbishoprick of Montreal in Sicily, which is empty by the said cardinal's death,
namely, cardinal Savelly and cardinal Astalli: it is thought this last will carry it away,
by reason of the great services he hath rendered to Spain, and of the persecution he hath
endured on that account under the last pontificate.

Cardinal Spada is sick, but without danger; cardinal Anthoni Barbarini came hither
from Loretto on thursday last; it is said, his voyage is making for France, to have the
archbishoprick of Rheims, but cardinal Mazarin is not thought to be much satisfied with
his substituting cardinal Rapaccioli in the Camerlingat. Cardinal John Charles of Medicis
is upon his return for Florence, but the old cardinal his uncle remaineth here. It is said,
the pope will absolutely send mr. Massimi, as nuncio to Spain, and mr. Corfini in France,
saying, that he is not obliged to send unto crowns persons of their own choosing, but
this is not yet certain. Great rejoicings were made yesterday for the taking possession of St.
John of Lateran. The pope went in a litter by reason of his indisposition.

Cardinal Harach had resolved to return for Germany to his archbishoprick of Prague;
but he hath deferred his preparations at the instance of cardinal Colonna, and of the con-
stable his brother, until the return of the post sent by this last unto the emperor, upon
the subject of the refusal the pope makes to admit him as ambassador of his imperial
majesty. The said cardinal Colonna seems to be much discontented thereat, being always
in the country, having not assisted at the rejoicings made yesterday, nor unto the chapter
which was held before, although he was seen to walk the same day in Rome incognito.

What difficulties soever the pope hath made hitherto to let his kindred come hither,
yet so many reasons have been shewed him for their coming, that it is thought he will send
for his brother and two of his nephews, it being impossible for him alone to take care of
the government. Others do nevertheless assure, that he doth still remain in his first reso-
lution. They used to put in the pope's chapel clerks, and other petty officers, who
bought those charges, giving sums of money for them according to their value; but the
pope hath changed that order, to put therein persons of honesty, and of the same quality
as those, who enjoyed the first charges, reimbursing all those, who had bought them under
the late pontificate.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning.

Amsterdam, May 10, 1655. [N. S.]

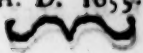
SIR,

I HAVE here inclosed given you a farther accompt touching the proceedings in your Vol. xxv.
case in the court of admiralty here; and being much of it is the advice of counsell, for p. 647.
the management of the cause, which might be very prejudiciall, if publicly known, I
have writt it in cipher, for which trouble I know I may with freedom aske your pardone.
The newes here is much in expectations from the fleet now with Penn, and the proceedings
of the Swedish army. None can say any thing of Penn, for one weeke the exchanges

Vol. III.

5 O

ring

A. D. 1655.  ring of his taking French plantations; the next, of his designe on Cuba, Hispaniola, or at least securing the Haven, which doth not a little perplex the Spaniard, who was never lower. The wisest here say, the Swede never had thought of assisting him, but to take Gulickeland from the dukes of Newburghe and Brandenberghe, on a pretence of title; and that this is most probable, appears by his draweing that way, which, if true, questionless will cause a new warre in Germany. A few weekes will produce the truth. The Spaniard and Hollander strengthen their frontiers towards the Rheine; the French prepare amaine for the campania; the Spaniard, as my Bruxells letters tell me, only for a defensive warre. I pray let me hear weekly from you, for by the next I shall be settled, and you may expect then the schedule of the goods I told you of from Antwerp. All I shall say is, lett not your cause in the admiralty suffer for want of money; and by the same hand you sent the last, as you shall thinke fitt. Many charges daily thought of we must be att, to manage itt to the most advantage. I question not but you will receive a satisfactorie accompt; and assure your self, none shall with more integrity indeavour itt, then

Sir, your affectionate servant,

ANDREW BURTON.

The superscription,

For my esteemed freind, mr. Jeremiah Joslin,
att London.

Instructions unto Edward Rolt, esq; one of the gentlemen of our privy chamber, upon his going to Sweden.

Vol. xxxviii.
p. 171.
In the hand
writing of se-
cretary Thur-
loe.

1. **U**PON your receipt of these instructions, our credentiall letters to his majestie the king of Swethland, and our ratification of the treaty lately made and concluded at Stockholm betweene the plenipotentiarys and commissioners of us and the most serene and potent lady Christina, late queene of Sweden, and such other papers, as shall be delivered unto you by our secretarye of state, you shall without any delay repaire on board the ship appointed for your transportation, now in the Downes; and, as soon as wind and weather shall permitt, shall saile to Hamborough, where you shall direct your course to such places, where you shall understand the king of Swethland to be.
2. And upon your arrivall with the king, you shall desire audience of his majestie; and at your audience shall salute him in our name, expresseing to him the great esteeme wee have of his friendship and amitie, and that no meanes shal be omitted on our parte, which may give him demonstration thereof. That wee doe congratulate his accessie to the gouvernement; and wish him all prosperity and good successe in the manadgment thereof. That as wee doe with much content ratifie the treaty made with the queene of Sweden, soe wee shall with all care and realtye see the same firmly and inviolably observed on our parte; and have sent our ratification thereof unto his majestie by you, commandinge you to assure him, that we shall contribute our endeavours for contracting a nearer union and alliance with the crowne of Sweden; and that wee doe not doubt, but to finde the same inclination in his majestie, seeing he hath, since his accession to the crowne, expessed so much his affection to us and this commonwealth, and particularly, that he hath been pleased to send unto us an extraordinary ambassador, who, you may assure his majestie, is welcome to us, using such further expresseions as you shall judge fitt of our good will unto his majestie. And, at the close of your speech, shall deliver our credential letters, and acquaint his majestie, that you are ready to deliver the ratification, as he shall direct.
3. Dureinge your abode in that court, you shall endeavour to informe your selfe of all occurrents, either relatinge to this commonwealth, or other states, and shall certifie us thereof.
4. You shall endeavour to keepe and preserve all good correspondence betweene us and the said kinge and crowne of Sweden; and to remove any jealousies, which you shall observe to growe in the said kinge, concerninge us and our commonwealth.
5. If any ambassador, resident, envoye, or other agent or minister should be sent unto the king from Charles Stewart, as king of Great Britain and Ireland, you shall endeavour to hinder his reception. And if you finde it necessary, you are impowered to protest against it, as being contrary to the amity, which is betweene England and Sweden.
6. Whereas monsieur Coyet hath demanded of his highnes, that the kinge his master may have libertie to leavy six or seven thousand souldiers in Scotland; in case the kinge or any of his ministers shall make mention of this busines unto you, you shall give assurance

of our readines to doe in this or any other perticular, which may be of advantage to the kinge, A. D. 1655. as farre as may stand with the condition of our owne affaires at home, which were in such a posture, as would not suffer us to give a present consent therein; but have taken it into our consideration, and will acquaint monsieur Coyet, or the ambassador extraordinary, with what we shall resolve therein; which his majestie may assure himself will be with respect to that amitie and good understanding, which is betweene us.

7. In case any thing be moved unto you concerning that article in the treatie, whereof satisfaction is to be given for the losses and damages susteyned in the warr with the Dutch; you shall have herewith coppies of the papers past betweene our commissioners and the said monsieur Coyet; accordinge to which you shall regulate your selfe in your discoursing on that subject.

8. You shall give unto us a frequent account of your negotiation, and shall observe such further instructions, as shall be from tyme to tyme sent unto you.

To his most serene highness the lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland.

THE subscribed ambassador extraordinary of the lords the states general of the United Provinces hath with severall papers by special order of the said lords the states, represented heretofore the illegal, nay pyratyck seizure of a ship of Edam, called the Schaep, Jacob Jansen Schaep master, by one captain Cotterell; and at last it hath pleased his most serene highness, with the advice of his council, to order on tuesday the 3d of April, that the said ship with all such her lading, tackle, and furniture as could be found, in whose hands soever it were, should be forthwith released and restored to the master for the use of the interested. And according to the same order the decree of the judges of the admiralty *in forma* hath also been issued and sent down to them, with a letter of the commissioners of the custom and excise, whereby they permitted the sale of the goods that could be recovered and restored. Yet notwithstanding the said master having with the assistance of mr. Richard Dolbery, one of the aldermen of Poole, demanded of captain Johnson, collector of the customs there, the goods, which had been plundered out of the said ship of Edam, and left in his custody by the said captain Cotterell, he refused it, pretending that he had received a writ of appraisement out of the exchequer; and that the said goods being appraised accordingly were sold by him, as appeareth by an original letter of the said mr. Richard Dolbery, dated in Poole the 16th of April last past; and other private persons having some of the imbezzled goods in their hands, refused likewise to restore the same, according to his most serene highness's especial order, and the decree of the court of admiralty, both before mentioned. Therefore the said ambassador beseecheth most instantly, that his most serene highness will be graciously pleased to consider the fraudulent proceedings of the said Johnson, the collector of the customs at Poole aforesaid, who hath very well known how much the said master Jacob Jansen Schaep was wronged by the said captain Cotterell; and that the goods were unlawfully brought ashore by the takers, and not by the said master, nor the proprietors. And that it is therefore a wicked invention of his to inform the said exchequer, that the duties of the customs not being paid, the goods were forfeited to his highness, the master and interested not having the least disposition thereof. And indeed it is altogether contrary to law, equity, and reason, and never practised in any well ordered government, the ship being violently seized, and the goods wrongfully and by force taken and landed by the seizers, that therefore the said goods should be forfeited. And whereas it appeareth also by the said letter of mr. Richard Dolbery, that no surrender is to be expected of the said goods, nor compensation for the same but by compulsion and higher authority, the said master being a stranger, destitute of all such means as are necessary to make the said captain John Cotterell and others to obey the said order and decree, the said ambassador hoping, that his most serene highness will be sensible of the poor man's condition, beseecheth, that such able and honest men may be employed therein, that the said order may be effectually executed, and that all may be done accordingly; and that just and reasonable satisfaction may be given for the cost and damages sustained by reason of the said unlawful seizure and detention of the said ship the Schaep of Edam aforesaid.

WILLIAM NIEUPORT.

Given at Westminster this 1. May 1655.

Sir

Sir Benjamin Wright to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

A. D. 1655.
 Vol. xxvi.
 p. 14.

MY last unto your honor was of the 22 of Aprill, by the way of Biluao, to accompany the copie of a former of the 10th, sent by the way of France, in regard it was heere reported, that all English shippes and goods were ther embargued; so I doubted, that my letter would not finde passage that way. But now by letters from Bourdeaux of the 18th paste, I understand, that letters will goe false, and soe I adventure to trust this by that conveyance, to lett your honor know, that the ship of advise, which is arrived at Cadiz from the West-Indias, bringeth newes, that the admirall ship of the South Sea, that bringeth the plate from Lima, to embarke in the plate-fleete at Porto-Velo for Spaigne, was cast away upon a bancke of sands, coming too neere the shoare, but the men were saved, except some few, that upon the strikeinge of the ship leapt into the sea out of feare, thinking to swim ashore; but all the plate which came in the ship beinge too millenes of ryalls of 8, for the kinge, and eight millenes, as is reported, for particular men, wherof onely too were under register, so that for the other fixe, they came to composition with the king's ministres ther. By this mischance the plate-fleete will not be heere untill Auguste. Heere they seeme not to be much discontented at the delay, fearinge, that yf it had bin at sea, it might have met with yours; yet the not cominge thereof accordinge to expectation will mightily hinder this king's affayres both at hoame and abroad. The courtes, which I have advised your honor of in my former letter were began, have yet done notheinge, that I can heare of, worth your notice, more then to give care to many arbitristos, that giveth in papers of projects, to rayse monies for the kinge. In my last I tould your honor, that the letter, which his highnesse was pleased to write to this kinge in my behalfe, his majestie has remitted to Don Luis de Haro, to be seene in his junta; but I seeinge that a month was past, and no junta called, nor any resolution taken upon the letter, I resolved to goe to Aranaxues, wher the kinge is, to petition his majestie, that his highnesse letter might be remitted to his councill of state, and satisfaction given me, accordinge to his highnesse request; whereupon his majestie hath commanded, that the letter, with my petitiones, wherein I declare the justnesse of my demands, be remitted to the said councill; so that now, within a few dayes, I shall see what resolution they will take. Yf they heere resolve to continue a good correspondence with his highnesse, I doubt not but that justice will be done me; but I see they are very jealous, that your fleete, which is gone towards the West-Indias, will fall upon some of ther islands ther, and then all the English that are in Spaigne will suffer.

The kinge, queene, and infanta are yet in Aranaxues, but wil be heere the 14th of this month. The queene is reported to be with childe, to the great content of all men. God graunt shee be, and of a sonne; it will put a stop to the treatie of marriage of the infanta with the duke of Savoye. The duke of Lorraine, prisoner in Toledo, but permitted to walke the streetes in coach with his guards, thought to have made his escape; the maner how, as yet wee know not. His plot was discovered by interceptinge of some letters, that the coachman had secretly put into the coach under the coushin, wher the duke sate (by the guardo mayor) as the duke tooke them out, though he did it with much dissimulation. Wherupon he is not now permitted to walke the streetes as he formerly did. Heere they are very well pleased with the new pope, hopinge that he will make a peace 'twixt Spaigne and France: yf he doth not, Spaigne wil be mightily put to it, for want of men and monies, for in the Irish they dare not trust, they haveing now againe shewne ther bad intentions at Armentiers; so that I thinke they will at last resolve to employ no more of them for commanders.

The letters yesterday from Cadiz, of the 2d of this month sayeth, that there was arrived one of your frigates in 16 days from London, 6 dayes before, with a dispatch from his highnesse to generall Blake. He made ther but litle stay, so that ere this I dout not but he is with him.

They are heere well pleased to heare of the arrest made in England on French men's goods, and in France upon the English; and with reason, for they will need your assistance to be able to defend themselves agaynst the French in Italy, and borders of Flanders.

The marques de Caracena, that entred with his army the dukedome of Modena, it seemes, is retired with some losse, though heere they endeavor to make the best of it; but they had great hopes at Caracena's first entrance. Sir, I have not for the present more to advise your honor of, feareinge the miscarryinge of my letter; and therefore I crave leave to remayne

Your honor's most humble and thrice obedient servant to command,

From Madrid, May 11, 1655. [N. S.]

BENJAMIN WRIGHT.

The Polish envoy to secretary Thurloe.

Excellentissime domine,

PRæteritis nonnullis hebdomadibus excellentiam vestram interpellavi, rogaviq[ue] ut re- A. D. 1655.
sponsum expeditionemque meam apud serenissimum dominum protectorem commen- Vol. xxvi.
dare non gravaretur, quâ acceptâ eandem ad sacram regiam majestatem dominum meum P. 13.
clementissimum revertere, ac rationem actorum reddere valeam, quo sacra regia ma-
jestas de mediis, quas Deus optimus maximus contra tot immanes hostes jam jam castra
moventes suppeditare voluerit, sese, cum summum in morâ sit periculum, inservire possit:
Cum vero hucusque nequicquam de expeditione tam necessariâ audierim, intermittere non
potui, quin ab excellentia vestra iterum atque iterum peterem, ut commendatione suâ
apud serenissimum dominum protectorem expeditionem meam promovere velit, quo quan-
tocius hinc proficisci, ac ea, quæ impetraverim, referre possim. Excellentiam vestram
certiorem reddo, nullum hocce tempore regi meo genus officii gratius futurum, meque
sibi in perpetuum obstrictissimum fore confidat, cui bonam ac perfectam valetudinem à
Deo apprecor, maneoque

Excellentiæ vestræ

Londini, 2 Maii, 1655.

officiosissimus ac observantissimus servitor,

N. DE BYE,

Internuncius extraordinarius serenissimi Poloniæ Sueciæque regis.

A letter of intelligence.

Heidelberg, May 12, 1655. [N. S.]

HIS highness is for Italy about a month hence at the furthest. My lord Gerard and Vol. xxvi.
fir Marmaduke Langdale engage in this business with the prince, who hath con- p. 28.
ditions under the duke of Modena, and is to be general.

Countess of Ranalaugh to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

HIS highness upon the earnest petition of the earle of Portland was pleased to give Vol. xxvi.
you a direction to cause a letter to be drawne up to my lord deputy of Ireland, de- p. 31.
firing him to secure the 8 motherless children of my now lord vicecount Neuterville from
being transplanted out of the fifth part of their father's estate, which is alone what is left
them to buy them bread, and from which they cannot bee transplanted without evident pro-
babilitie of perishing, nor their being transplanted any way prevented, but by your charetie
in hastening this letter from his highness to my lord deputy; which if the charetie and
necessity of the worke it selfe were not presumed to be prevayleing arguments with you to
obtaine from you, she durst nott owne the confidence of presenting you this humble
memorandum, who now subscribs herselfe

The 2d of May, [1655.]

Your servant in the Lord Christ,

K. RANALAUGH.

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

IGAVE you in my last an accompt of lieutenant generall Ludlow. I perceave you Vol. xxvi.
are about settling of the courts of justice heere. I thinke I could name six or eight judges, p. 33.
against whom no exceptions could be taken; only I desire to know, whether his highness in-
tends the chancerye in the hannds of a lord chauncellor or commissioners: if a chauncellor,
I must confes, I could wish wee had recorder Steele. If I may have the libertie to offer
the names, I shall send them to you by the next; but it may be, I may presume to send
them to you by this poast, left by staying for an answere, I may be prevented by your en-
gagement to others. I hope those places, which by our instructions are in our dispose, I
hope his highness will leave them to, there being many deserving persons, that have long
waited for them. I shall not further add, then that I am

Dublyn Castle, May 2,
1655.

Your affectionate and humble servant,

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

VOL. III.

5 P

The

Middlesex *The information of Robert Burgis of the parish of St. Giles's Cripplegate, London, wheelwright, taken upon the second day of May, 1655, before John Barkstead, esq; lieutenant of the Tower of London, and one of the justices of the peace for the county aforesaid.*

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvi.
P. 34.

THIS informant saith, that about the 15th day of June last he wanting some money, went over the water to the house of John Minors at Lambeth, in the county of Surry, to borrow some of him; and when this informant came thither about five or six of the clock in the morning, he there saw the said John Minors and one James Dewey at work, the said James Dewey stamping of counterfeit money, and the said John Minors filing and making the edges thereof smooth; and saith, that he there saw the said James Dewey stamp about six half crowns, and the said John Minors file and make them smooth, which said John Minors then and there, after this informant had told him he wanted money, gave him of counterfeit money one half crown, two shillings, and one six pence, and then this informant departed, leaving them both at work. And further this informant saith, that about December last he with a constable and one capt. Thomas went to search the said house of John Minors, and there found melting pots, wooden presses, ingots, and several other irons and instruments for coining, as also one counterfeit half crown. And further saith, that he hath since heard by others the partners of the said John Minors, that he the said John Minors, together with Thomas Howard, the said James Dewey, William Dewey, and others, do now use and exercise counterfeiting of money; and that he the said John Minors hath a house for that purpose in Oxfordshire, which this informant hath not yet certain knowledge of, but doubteth not he shall gain knowledge thereof speedily; and further saith not.

The mark of
ROBERT **R B** BURGIS.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

Vol. xxvi.
P. 37.

THE 11th currant I dispatch hence the Warrick pinnas, with your letters to generall Blak, who is to cal in at Alcuda bay on Majork, and not fynding the fleet ther, to proceed for Argier, wher they intend to vittell; and, as I understand, will be very welcome thether. The French at Tollon make great dilligence to get out theyr fleet next month, which certainly will be a very strong fleet, and ful of soldiers. Befydes 20 ships, they will hav 12 gallyes, and as many fyre ships. 'Tis supposed theyr design is for Cattalonia. The Spanish ships at Naples mak but slow preparation, lyk unto all theyr actions. Generall Pen's fleet does more perplex them then all theyr wars with France. The Genowes hav certain newes, that the peace with Spayn is concluded; but the conditions not yet known. 'Tis advys'd from Rom by severall, that som messengers or agents ar coming thether from his hyhnes the protector; & letters from Antwerp say, they wer past that place the first of April. This is what I hear, which I hope you will accept of from,

Right honourable,

May 14, 1655. [N. S.]

Your most humble and faithful servant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

My correspondent at Naples has not yett met
one mare to his lyking.

A translation of the speech made in Latin to his highness the lord protector, by Constantine Schaum, the prince of Transylvania's envoy, May 4, 1655.

In the possession
of the right ho-
nourable Philip
lord Hardwicke,
lord high chan-
cellor of Great-
Britain.

THE splendor of the glory of your sovereign highness, which on every side doth fill the world, and from the lowest part of the earth doth reach to the heavens, hath also broken through the bars of our orient, and poured forth itself upon the utmost points of the European quarters, as far as the iron gates or portcullises, where, with the security of the purer Christianity, the faith is shut up together. In so spacious a boundary

of the world, illustrated by the brightness of your sovereign highness, some are gazing, some fearing, all with the same spirit of veneration giving worship. For it seemeth to all men, that a more excellent and fairer gift cannot by God himself be given, than a prince of holiness, and who is likest unto God. Which merits do even by the enemies witnesses crown your sovereign highness; so that none can doubt, but must confess, that not by any hidden power of a fate, but that God himself hath found out and made choice of such a majesty.

Which being laid to heart by the most high prince of Transylvania, my most gracious lord, who is none of the meanest rank amongst the princes of the world, notwithstanding so many impediments and interjacent distances of places, was willing to present himself, to compass this altar of glory, that he might view nearer at hand, what he hath heard of afar off; and withal to tender his devoted services, with a wish of a desirable friendship.

Whereupon his highness, by me, as his interpreter, doth congratulate his sovereign highness with all manner of prosperity, wherewithal his serenity is from heaven surrounded, in all sincerity, and as with a spontaneous, so with an unfeigned cordiality; for there can never be found a more sincere kind of congratulation, than that, which doth emulate those acclamations or shoutings, which have no necessity of disguising. May your sovereign highness be blessed with all happiness, and an estate of a continual encreasing exultation; more especially with a long life, prosperous years, a faithful people, peace from within, victories abroad, and in all achievements, not with the felicity of Augustus, such as the ancients were wont to wish to their emperors, but with a celestial, and such as may make happy the state of christendom. Moreover, whereas by a constant fame, his highness hath been acquainted with the signal successes of his sovereign highness's great actions, his highness cannot but express his joint resentment of joy together at them, and those, which may be greater hereafter, with all congratulating respects and applause. Which doth oblige his highness to a more strict observance of his sovereign highness, as having so truly and often understood, that all these designs are directed, not to a private interest, but for the publick good. And as his highness hath been hitherto of this assured, so he beseecheth the goodness of God, that those weighty intentions may be blessed with a most happy progress, that may end in the increase of the Christian churches. Which wishes and desires, his highness, by these present letters of his, which I am ready with all due submission to exhibit, will also make known.

At the council at Whitehall.

Friday, May 4, 1655.

Ordered,

THAT his highness be advised that nine be the number of the council in Scotland. Vol. xxxviii.

That it be offered to his highness, as the advice of the council, that general p. 109.

George Monck, the lord Broghill, Charles Howard, esq; William Lockart, esq; John Swinton, esq; Adrian Scroop, esq; Samuel Disbrowe, esq; Nathaniel Whetham, esq; and Cooper, esq; be the persons to be of the council of Scotland.

That it be offered to his highness, as the advice of the council, that Emanuel Downing be clerk of the council in Scotland.

W. JESSOP, clerk of the council.

Approved by his highness in person,

May 4, 1655.

W. JESSOP.

Avaugour to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Stockholm, May 15, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

ICAN tell you nothing new since my last; and I have only to thank you for the honour Vol. xxvi.
of yours of the 16th of the last month. p. 38.

The departure of the king is put off for these three weeks or a month, and the states, who are still met together, will still keep him, and do represent unto him upon the subject all the fears, which they ought to have for the state, alledging the story of king Gustavus, whose death had like to have ruined all Sweden. It is also a sign of tenderness of his people, that they will not absolutely resist him, nor his glorious designs. They still expect here the ambassador of Poland designed for this court. His name is monsieur Goraisky, and I believe he will come time enough to find the king here. Here is an ambassador

A. D. 1655. doſ arrived from Tartary; he hath not yet had audience. He comes to give notice of the arrival of his maſter to the crown, and to congratulate that of this king to his; but in regard here is advice, that he hath made a league offensive and defensive with Poland, it is likely he will make ſome declaration of it.

Here is yet nothing concluded between Brandenburg and this crown, whoſe commiſſioner doth daily declare the alarm, which his maſter hath of the deſign of Sweden.

Heinſius, the Dutch reſident in Sweden, to the ſtates general.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Vol. xxvi.
P. 40.

MY lords, in my laſt I made mention of the reſolution of the ſtates concerning the recalling of all the crown domains, as well of thoſe, which in former times were assigned for the keeping of the king's table, but are now alienated from the crown by gifts of the former kings, as alſo of thoſe, which belonged to the maintenance of the militia, admiralty, and mines. Beſides this, every one without exception of perſons ſhall be obliged to reſtore to the crown the fourth parts of all ſuch eſtates that were given him, being of another nature than the four above mentioned whereby it is believed, the king's revenues will be yearly encreaſed with about 120,000 rix dollars. As to the duty of one rix dollar on each ſhippound of large guns, which I have here before mentioned to your high mightineſſes, this ſeems to be altered, ſince I hear from a good hand, that the king's treaſurer ſhews an order from his maſteſty in writing, to ſeiſe all pieces of ordnance or great guns, which are caſt here in the country, paying to the founders or dealers in cannons eighteen copper dollars for each ſhippound, of which coin four make one rix dollar. If this order is brought into execution, no private merchants in the approaching war will have any liberty to export or to buy up guns. Yeſterday the lord field-maſhal Wittenbergh ſet ſail for Pomerania; he will not probably be above two or three days at ſea, becauſe he has a very favourable wind. This day or to morrow ſets out likewise from thence for that province the Daniſh lord high ſteward Corfits Ulefeldt, to take poſſeſſion of the bailiwick of Baerth, which he has bought of late, to make his reſidence there for the future. Lateſy are arrived here ſome deputies of the nobility of the dutchy of Bremen, and afterwards by water ſome Tartarian embaſſadors; what their errand is, we muſt wait for. The ſenator count Nicholas Tott is likewise arrived, having finiſhed his tour to France and Bruffels. The Daniſh embaſſador, the lord Peter Gull, is ready to take his leave from this court, transferring his place to mr. Erich Gull, who is now here, and will ſtay here for ſome time in the character of reſident of the ſaid crown. Although the Swediſh ſtates had rather, that the king would ſtay in the kingdom, he ſeems nevertheleſs reſolved to aſſiſt in the next campaign; however it is thought he will return before the winter, the rather becauſe it is certainly believed, that the queen, who is to remain here, is with child. Beſides the army in Pomerania, and that in Livonia, the general Koningſmarck is to command a third ſeparate army. After a long ſickneſs, died this week here the ſenator Charles Hoop, having lived but a little above thirty years; he was endowed with exceeding fine qualifications, and had a great eſteem for our nation; his death is generally lamented. The Ruſſians appear very numerous on the frontiers of Livonia, which haſtens not a little the preparations here againſt the next campaign.

Stockholm, May 13, 1655.

Herewith, &c.

High and mighty lords, &c.

N. HEINSIUS.

His maſteſty has taken phyſick for ſome days ſucceſſively, but at preſent his cure is happily finiſhed. The lord field-maſhal Wittenbergh has put off his marriage till a better opportunity. The lord high chancellor is to follow the king in the field.

Reſolution of the ſtates general.

May 16, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxvi.
P. 44.

THE lord counsellor penſionary de Witt, according to their high mightineſſes reſolution of yeſterday, produced, and afterwards in the aſſembly cauſed to be read, a certain project of inſtructions for the lords their high mightineſſes deputies, which are to be employed in the conferences with the province of the city and territories of Ommelands, in order

to endeavour there to settle and adjust the differences and disputes which are risen reciprocally between the nobility as heritors, and the deputies of the body of the lands. At which opportunity was also resumed, the resolution which was taken yesterday, touching the same subject; which being deliberated upon, their high mightinesses gave thanks to the said lord councillor pensionary, for and on account of the trouble he has had in the drawing up of the said instructions. Whereupon the said instructions with some few alterations did pass, and accordingly for the execution of the said instructions and resolution, were commissioned and required hereby, messieurs Schoock, Lodesteyn, the councillor pensionary de Witt, Mauregnault, vander Hoolck, Aylva, Ripperda and Schulenborgh. The said lords, their high mightinesses deputies, shall have power to choose themselves two clerks, and are desired to set out upon their journey on monday next; whereof notice shall be given to my lord the prince William of Nassau, as stadtholder of the province of city and lands, as likewise to the burgomasters and senate of the city of Groningen, and to both parties in the so called Ommelands; which notice shall likewise be given to the lord Aylva, with request forthwith to set out for the said purpose, for Groningen. And the receiver general is hereby commanded, to deliver into the hands of the lord Schoock, a sum of two thousand guilders, to make good the charges of the said journey, which the said lords, their high mightinesses deputies, in due time, shall be accountable for. Further, and in conformity to the regulation of this country, these resolutions of their high mightinesses shall be delivered (together with the dispatches resulting therefrom, as also from the instructions) without resumption. Whereupon, concerning the above-mentioned conclusion, as far as it relates to the deputation of commissioners, which was formed by the lord Ripperda, who presided last week, the lord present deputy of Friesland did declare not to consent, that out of the province of Holland two lords should be employed in the said commission, protesting against the prerogative, which the lords deputies of Holland did pretend herein, as being in prejudice of the equality of the provinces.

A. D. 1655.

An intercepted letter.

Mr. Woodd,

I Received yours dated the 15th day of May. Untill then I did much wonder att your long silence. I delivered your other letter to mr. Foster; hee said hee would suddainly send you an answere. All your freinds heere are well. Mr. Brandon is resolved to leave these partes suddainly. I beleeeve hee is comeing neerer to the sea side, either aboute Dunkirke or Bridges, where hee doth intend to spend some parte of this summer. I gave him notice, thatt you presented your service to him, and hee desires hee may heere from you againe, thatt hee may right to you himselfe; and hee will give you directions, where you may direct your letters to him; and for the present, if you send any before you heere from him, send them to the signe of the three Fishes in Dunkirke. Mr. Charles is very well, and hath beene lately att the duke of Newburrowes: hee gave him very fine entertainment. Mr. Bealing is gone upp into Germany for money for us. Secretary Nicholas remembers him very kindly to you, and bid mee tell you, mr. Charles did aske him, where you were; and hee gave him an accompt of your being in England. Our house is much lessioned since mr. Charles came backe. I would have you bee of good harte; still I hope eare long, thatt you will heere some good newes, thatt wee shall have better lucke att last; for there are good things I hope in hand. I wish you were neerer mee, for I could say more then I may imparte heere. All your freinds presents there respects to you. Mr. Massonett, your old freind, remembers him to you very kindly. Mr. Chanfellow and hee do not agree very well; they fell outt very lately about the entitulating some letters for forraine partes; which letters, I hope, will take foe good effect, that I hope you will heere from them eare it bee long. Pray lett mee heere from you againe, foe soone as you can, and I will give you a farther accompt. Soe I rest

Yours

Cullin, this 16th of May 1655. [N. S.]

WILLIAM ARMEROR.

This letter directed to John Woodd, is to mr. Pallmer.

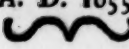
RIGHT HONNOURABELL,

This preasent fryday mourning, in persuans to your cummaund and my dutie, mr. Pallmer and I spent sume time together; and this letter he had from Cullin. Mr. Charls is the king; mr. Brandon, is lord Garrat; this William Armerror is eldest quere, but now waits as master of the horse; this secretary Nicklas is the same

Vol. III.

5 Q

man

A. D. 1655.  man that was secretary to ould Charls, and is the same now; this bove named Bealing went secretary into Jarmanny with Willmot; allfoe mr. Pallmer fath Foster dyrecks his letters now to Prodggers, by the name of Ward. Mr. Pallmer faith, the clark of the passies is not right.

The superscription,

*For mr. John Woodd, att the signe of the
band and cumpasses in St. Martain's lane,
London, these.*

Mr. W. Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

In the posses-
sion of the
right honour-
able Philip
lord Hard-
wicke, lord
high chancel-
lor of Great-
Britain.

THE other, that goeth herewith, is a copy of my last. These will inform your honour, that the week before Easter this people with much superstition make shew of great devotion; but from Easter day to the end of that week, they are no less truly debauched in drunkenness and all other dissoluteness, than devout the former week; insomuch that they believe, they should sin in not committing those excesses in rejoicing for Christ's resurrection, as they should offend God, in not performing their pretended devotions the precedent week for his sufferings and passion; and this not only the vulgar, but the patriarch himself, bishops, fryers, priests, nobles, generally all, from the highest dignities and offices, to the meanest person. Also the Easter week they mutually give and send presents of eggs, bread, and wine, each to other. My prestave did that to me, by sending me such a present by his servant, which I refused, and sent him back to his master with it; on which he came himself with his present, with many protestations, that he was not the cause of the disgust given me by taking away my cooks, and using them as they have been; and therefore desired me with all earnestness and adjurations to be his friend, and accept of his present: that he had already, and would continue to use his utmost endeavour, that I should have satisfaction to the affront done me; so that I accepted of his excuses and present, and of his coming to me again at his pleasure. Two days past he came and visited me, when he told me, that the chancellor hath been with the patriarch expressly to entreat him to give order, that the cooks may be sent me back; who thereupon was in such choler, that he turned away the chancellor, and would not give him his blessing. I know for certain, that he is extremely incensed and averse to all strangers, but more to our nation than to any other. He takes more upon him, as well out of the church, as in it, than doth the emperor himself. I am told, that the four nobles, to whom the emperor hath committed all affairs here in his absence, some of the prime officers in the chancery, and chief merchants, Ruffes, in this city, have not condescended, and are sorry for the affront done me in the cooks; and all is put on the patriarch.

I have not as yet more light of the answers that are promised me, nor when I shall be dispeeded to go down to Archangel, than when the emperor went from hence.

By letters from Smolensko, of the 5th of April, is written from an English colonel, that the emperor arrived there the last of March; that his majesty hath in all his armies 30 regiments of foot, their colonels and chief officers strangers, but all their soldiers Ruffes: every regiment is from fifteen hundred to two thousand. Three of those regiments went forth of Smolensko upon service, the 5th of April, and others were to follow. That the Pole is starving. This is what I know merits your honour's cognizance. So I humbly take leave, and remain,

Mosco, May 10, 1655.

Right honourable,

Your honour's most humble servant,

WILLIAM PRIDEAUX.

A letter of intelligence.

Vienna, May 20, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 31.

YOURS came even now to me, by which I see the misery of these poor men R. C. embroiled in his unfortunate designs in England. It were better he were dead, than so many suffer for him. Sure they will be weary of him in England, after this singular and

and signal ruin of his and all his; if not, they will be as unfortunate as he, and worse, A. D. 1655. which may not be. Here is no talk of R. C. or his affair, but every one admiring his misfortune. Heretofore they pitied him; now they say, he is destined by God with his family to ruin for ever. This is all the discourse we now have of him.

The news from Passaw by the last letters bring, that the differences, which hindred all proceedings betwixt the catholicks and the protestants in this tedious diet, are in fine determined last sunday was sevensnight, by a particular advice from the emperor, which he communicated to both parties, by the prince of Dieterichstein and Auperch; whereupon being proposed in the diet, all which his imperial majesty desired was gratefully observed, both parties accepted without altering the least syllable, which came from the emperor. Since they begin to determine other publick and particular affairs, so that it is believed, in a short time they will finish all their business with satisfaction to both parties. It is not doubted, but before the latter end of this month the election of the archduke Ignatio shall be, to be king of Hungary. It cannot be unknown to you, how he and the king of Spain sent to the said archduke the golden-fleece.

The levies a making for the defence of his majesty's states are daily encreasing. The elector of Bavaria continues his fortifications in the city of Ingoldstat by 2500 men he has there. He has given orders in secret, to raise seven regiments more of horse and foot, and commanded in all his territories to have ready a quantity of carts and waggons, to carry victuals and ammunition, where there shall be occasion.

The Swedes are fasting, praying, and mortifying for a good and fortunate success to their designs; yet *incognito*. The Poles make great preparations to defend themselves. This season will let us see what yet lies hid. *Interim patientia*, which is this week's conclusion. From,

Sir, your's, &c.

A paper of Nieuport, the Dutch ambassador in England.

Quoniam articulo tricesimo foederis nuper initi convenit inter serenissimum dominum Vol. xxvi. protectorem reipublicae Angliae, Scotiae, & Hiberniae, & celsos & potentes dominos, P. 89. ordines generales foederati Belgii, ut commissarii seu arbitri nominarentur & constituerentur cum plenâ & integrâ potestate & auctoritate examinandi, & definiendi omnia illa damna & injurias, quas pars una ab alterâ se pertulisse causatur ab an. 1611, usque ad 18 Maii 1652, stylo veteri, quæque exhiberi oportuerat ante 18 Maii 1654, qui tamen dies consentiente parte utraque protractus fuit ad diem tricesimum ejusdem mensis. Et si prædicti commissarii de prædictis damnis & injuriis non convenirent intra tres ab illo die menses, quod prædictæ querelæ ad cantones protestantes Helvetiæ remitterentur, qui rogarentur, ut commissarios nominarent & constituerent, qui antedictas querelas examinarent & definirent intra sex menses post elapsos priores tres. Et quoniam utriusque reipublicæ commissarii Londini congregati fuerint, receperintque diversas querelas intra prædictum tempus illis traditas, & aliquas examinaverint & definiverint expressas in prædictorum commissariorum laudo & arbitrio sub eorundem chirographis & sigillis promulgato 30 Augusti 1654, stylo veteri, & tamen diversæ querelæ intra prædictum tempus traditæ, indecisæ & indeterminatæ remanserint, quas juxta prædictum tricesimum articulum oportuisset remittere ad prædictos cantones protestantes Helvetiæ, ut per commissarios ab illis nominandos & constituendos deciderentur, quæ quidem nominatio & constitutio ab illis ante dict. temp. sex mensium facta non est. Et tamen necesse sit, ut prædictæ querelæ definiantur, & omnes simultates auferantur, omnisque umbra dissidiorum in futurum tollatur, conventum & conclusum est inter serenissimum dominum protectorem & celsos ac potentes dominos ordines generales, ut omnes querelæ traditæ intra tempus prædictum nempe 30 Maii 1654, neque comprehensæ, & determinatæ in antememorato laudo & arbitrio, referantur & submittantur judicio & determinationi antedictorum commissariorum, qui prædictum laudum & arbitrium promulgarunt, vel aliorum, qui utrinque nominabuntur & constituentur; utque illi rursus Amstelodami in Hollandia convenient, eadem potestate & auctoritate muniti & instructi, ut antehac; utque eodem ordine & modo eademque methodo procedant, atque ita omnes omnino querelas prædictas determinent intra tres menses post primum illorum congressum, qui erit 20 mensis Julii 1655, & quod publica notitia illius diei populo utriusque reipublicæ dabitur, quodque omnia, quæ antedicti commissarii intra prædictos tres menses determinabunt, utramque partem obligabunt. In quorum omnium & singulorum fidem & testimonium tam nos commissarii celsitudinis suæ, quam ego legatus extraordinarius foederatarum Belgii provinciarum præsentis has propriis manibus subscripsimus, & sigillis nostris munivimus. Actum Westmonasterii nono die Maii, stylo veteri, an. 1655.

WILLIAM NIEUPOORT.

Mr.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvi.
p. 71.

I HAV not heard any thing from generall Blak, nor has my friend at Naples bin yet successefull in meeting with any good mares; but all dilligence is used to fynd them. What I writ you last week of the peace concluded twixt Spayn and Genoa, 'tis again contradicted, rather that they ar upon very remote terms; inſomuch that the Genoa ambaffador in Spaine is retyred from the court. This pope is lookt upon as a man ſet up in that place, to oppoſe and quaſh the thryving of the proteſtant party. He has already imploy'd the armes of Savoy againſt the proteſtants in that countrey, who hav liv'd ther, and enjoy'd theyr religion, as long as Criſtianity has bin profeſt in Europe, from whom thoſe of Geneva and the Albigenſes in France had theyr begining. The incloſed newes of Rom wil more fully acquaint yow with it. The French fleet from Tollon maks al haſt to be at ſea next month. The Spanyard is ſending about fix ſhips from Naples to Barſalona with proviſion and foldoires. I ſhould gladly hear, upon what terms wi ſtand with Spayn. 'Tis vulgarly here reported, that the Duch ar inclynable to any party, that is enemy to England; but mithinks they ſhould bi wyſer. I am,

Leghorn, May 21, 1665. [N. S.]

Right honourable,

Your moſt faithful ſervant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning.

b

21 May 55. [N. S.]

Collen four and twentyeth.

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 66.

THE duke of Gloceſter, with the lord Napier, Oneil, Maning, coll. Stephens, with Amſterdam

Edgworth, and ſome other Scotts officers 388 15 others of meane ſervants are come to Collen. I ſaid the duke by order of the ſtates generall, though no notice bee taken that that order was the cauſe. Middleton's deſigne is given for loſt.

The lawyers I named were, ſir O. Bridgman, mr. Palmer, mr. John Vaughan. Why I named theſe, was being Dr. Morley (Hyde's creature) when asked, why Hyde ſhould take upon him ſo much, his anſwer was, hee did nothing without the advice of thoſe and other lawyers, who were of the counſill in London. The marquiffe of Hartford, I have ſaid to you in other letters, was treated with by Henry Seymore; but I could not ſay hee was abſolutely engaged. One mr. Stephen Boman, a ſervant of his in Wilts, treated for him with Penrudock. Serjeant Hyde, his brother Frederick, coll. Edward Phillips, have been his confidants; and, as ſir Edward Nicholas ſayeth, hee knowes that the marquiffe never did converſe with more then one of them at a time. They are alarum'd here concerning him by the laſt poſt's letters.

why

To the Kentiſh men which I have mentioned, they were all engaged 276 Roſſie was often ſent by them to the king, Mr. John Heath and ſir J. Mince, their agents at court. And for ſhipping in Zeeland, the king deſign'd to have been there in perſon. And when you had ſeized coll. Thornell, &c. then his thoughts were on Norfolke and Lincolne. I did know of letters ſent by an oyſterman from Fluſhing to Feversham, to one mr. Trowt, for Thornell, and ſir Thomas Peyton.

Day,

At Dover all paſſe by the aſſiſtance of one And. 545 Fox, &c. ſearchers. And as N ed as off them not th ing long as they are there, all will paſſe you. 424 168 418 313 205 75 316 562 elſe, but upon what ſcore they hold correſpondence with capt. Will. Pain and Windham at Bolloughn. And Foſter hath made Oneil, Manings, Armorer, Roſs, Trelawney, Palmer, Holſey, and the other Dover eſcapes; and manie before.

From the weſt, mr. John Seymore and Trelawney have been ſent to the king. Sir H. Polard made the diſpatches in the name of the reſt. The marquiffe was ever ſhy in having his name mentioned at our counſells.

The midland counties, Davison, collonell Francis Lovelace, who knowes much of all, A. D. 1655. and one major Horwood of Oxford. Wales by collonells Will. Toringham, Will. Owen, Edward Progers, agents in London.

North, by coll. Marmaduke Darcy, Worden, major Scott, Walters, Armorer, &c.

By major Edgworth, lately prisoner in Stafford, I understand sir Robert Sherley and coll. Randal Egerton were engaged; and that night hee was taken, the rendezvouz should have been at Ezerly-bridge.

Mr. Sam. Sandys, and the Coventry's for Worcester. The army party were treated with in England. Sir Bennet Gray and Norwood were of those who treated.

A plainer account I cannot at present give, haveing been employed abroad in the time of these confederacyes. But what you have is true, though the evidences you must get there from your prisoners. And what circumstances I can, by all the industry that may bee, pick up, as also any thing that concernes you here, you shall not fayle to have with all diligence. Remember Lovelace, who is privy to the intricacys of the whole designe.

If you would take notice of the persons I have named together in my former letters, and promise a reward to those who discover them, and where they have been harboured, you would find out much. Oneil hath been at the lord Nieuport's house on my ladie's score, and yet there are many of her's there, or at other places that the ladie knowes off.

This Oneil said himsele to the king. I know your taking notice of them may bee many thousands in your way.

Richard Pile and Thomas Lisle, the one chirurgion to the king, are to be found at Chafe's, his apothecary, and are little instruments.

Mr. Phillips is escaped, and at Antwerp; coll. Worden at the Hague. You must have more care of your prisoners.

Mr. Richard Nicholls knows all of the duke of Yorke and Darbyshire. Oneil said to the king, that hee was taken for him, and hee was then in another house by, where a party of souldiers were endeavouring to get in; but when Nicholls was taken, the officer called them off. This may easily bee found out.

Sir, I must entreate a supply of money by the next. You will doe mee a courtesy ho

in sending it speedily, for what I had was expended at 282 having it. I must bee at great charge to do you effectuall service.

Now all the expectation is from the levellers, and the party, who were then present at the proclayming the king in the late risings; of which sir R. Willis, &c. were. Manie are for assassinating the protector, but Ch. St. is not forward in having it don. The lords Gerard and Napier, who had a hand in Dorislaus's death, are impatient, and offer the undertaking of it, if there may bee due order taken for money to buy horses, &c. but doe you bee carefull at home. I will not be wanting in giving you notice from hence.

They are now endeavouring all that may bee to reconcile all partyes, especially Ormond, Hyde, &c. with the queen. Blagues is to goe to Paris about it. The king enquiring for severall persons, collonell Stephens gave this account, that he left Wilmot in London; that his lady had been with him, and Paul Smith his lieutenant colonell, and was engaged; and that the lord Oglebey, sir James Hamilton, Loughborough, colonell Roger Burges, Lawter, Mayard, major Francis Latchiff, and Beversham, and many souldiers of fortune about London, especially Ormond's officers, were engaged. The Horse-shoe Taverne in Drury-Lane was and is their meeting place.

Sir Thomas Armstrong is much valued.

Sir Thomas Stanley killed at Antwerp.

Mr. Le Maire to secretary Thurloe.

Postquam de Angliâ decessi, vir nobilissime, nihil nisi ventus adversus, maris tranquillitas, et quidquid istorum impedimentorum magis est, mihi continuo acciderunt; quo- Vol. xxvi. circa post quinque demum dierum navigationem magno cum labore in Zelandia adveni; p. 65. ex quâ non minori incommodo Hagam Comitum, ubi decimo quarto die hujus stili et mensis, sive primus dies adventus mei, discessum ducis Gloucesterii expresso et reiterato dominorum ordinis Hollandiæ mandato, in Coloniam vidi, concomitatus per aliquot milliaria à sorore et regina Bohemiæ, aliisque istius sequelæ hominibus, et ut hic abitus illis, ut rumor est, pertristis fuit, ita à multis etiam harum provinciarum subditis crudelis judicatur, et ordines supradicti eam ob causam execrantur, et à plebeis male exaudiunt.

Eodem die, vir nobilissime, ex officio meo duxi anxie investigare, qui et quales me possent ad scopum optatum, in re tibi cognitâ, fideliter perducere, et quos inveni, ne nimis generali obligatione tenerentur, causarum naturam scire desiderant, in quibus mihi

A. D. 1655. *auxilium offerrent, antequam quicquam promittere volunt; idcirco ne hac in re errem, operæ pretium duxi dominationem vestram interpellare, et obnixè petere, ne mihi aliquos articulos, desiderium vestrum continentes, quam primum transmittere dedigneris, quos illis possem exhibere, et tali jacto fundamento cum vestrà bonâ veniâ negotium concludere. Quanta autem remuneratio illis hanc ob causam porrigenda sit, adhuc non possum accuratè et bene dominationi vestræ explicare; sed cum quinque sint numero diversæ functionis et consilii, credo centum libris sterlingis me illis posse satisfacere et taliter adstringere, ut quicquid istius rei fuerit, mihi fideliter tradant. Hæc si dominationi vestræ arrideant, quamprimum intelligere desidero, et interim Deum opt. max. pro dominationis vestræ bonâ prosperâque valetudine ardentè precabor.*

Amsterodami, 21 Maii, 1655.
[N. S.]

Tuus devotus servus,
LE MAIRE.

Boreel, the Dutch ambassador in France, to the states general.

Paris, May 21, 1655. [N. S.]

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 72.

THE king, queen, the cardinal, and the whole court, are gone from hence to Compiègne, where the ceremonies of the nuptials are to be observed between the duke of Modena and mademoiselle Martinozzi, niece to the cardinal. The prince Eugenio, eldest son of the prince Tomaso of Carignan, hath procuration from the said prince of Modena to represent him there. Before the departure of the king, several ambassadors took their leave of this court; and those of the Hans towns have effected their business between. A treaty is said to be concluded for the regulating of trade and commerce. I shall see to get a copy of the articles, and send them over to your high and mighty lordships.

They write from Turin, that the troops of the duke of Savoy, commanded by the marquis of Roanes, have wretchedly assaulted and misused the protestants formerly called Vaudois, who were retreated to the high mountains and vallies of Savoy, where they had their subsistence, with an intention to preserve themselves from the cruelty of the Papists, who were always very bitter against them, and now they declared against them, as rebels, and fell upon them in the said vallies with their forces, plundered and burnt their habitations, and put many of them to the sword in their fury; and some they have executed since by way of justice upon them; and two ministers they hung up: many prisoners they have carried away with them, and as much plunder as they say doth amount to 300000 guilders.

Don Augustus Navarra, secretary of state of the king of Spain in the Netherlands, past through this city on monday last, with a pass for Spain, after that he had first the honor to speak and salute the king, queen, and cardinal.

Here is news come from Marseilles, that the Spaniards are before Rose with 22 ships and six gallies. That likewise the English admiral Blake had taken in about Tunis the harbour and port called Farino, and there burnt and fired all the Turkish ships.

Nieuport, the Dutch ambassador in England, to the pensionary de Witt.

Westminster, May 21, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 76.

THE secretary of state sent me this week sealed up the inclosed answer in writing upon a memorandum given in the 24th of December concerning the contents of the 15th article of the treaty; and this morning his honour sent me the enclosed article, which I had drawn up with the communication of the advocate of the Netherland East India company, being signed by two commissioners, who had been in conference with me about it. I have sent him back the like article signed by me alone.

In regard of the reception of the marquis of Leda, and other occasions, the lords here say, that they have had no time to conclude and sign the peace and treaty with the lord of Bordeaux; and I have understood from the one and the other side, that there is a little difference risen about the business of Canada or Nova Francia; these lords saying, that the said lord ambassador was contented, that the lord protector should declare by word of mouth, that that business should be examined amongst the rest of the arbitrators of both

both sides ; and the embassador faith, that in regard both parties are agreed upon a former treaty, it ought to be put down in writing. I hope this accident will make no alteration. The embassador groweth impatient. There is no doubt to be made that all possible endeavours are on foot by the Spanish side to hinder it ; but I believe they will not go back from what is agreed with France. Your honour may be assured, that I will not be wanting in my endeavours for the furthering and accomplishing of the treaty. I am told, that Francisco Ferreira, the envoy of Portugal, perceiving, that they will not accept here of any alteration in the treaty that was concluded here, nor that the merchants will be paid with compliments, is making ready to be gone. I hope their high and mighty lordships will not take it amiss of me, that I have not endeavoured to hold any conversation with a person, who hath spoke with so much contempt of the United Provinces.

Mr. John Pell to secretary Thurloe.

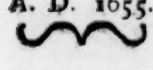
SIR,

THE last thirsdlay, that is May the tenth, the fast was observed all over these coun-
tries for the Piemontois. After the last sermon they collected in this city almost 500 P. 83.
pounds sterling, which shall be sent to Geneva for them, as soone as the townes and vil-
lages of this canton have sent all their collections hither. The same day a great number
of souldiours passed by this city toward France, of which I told the principall secretary's
substitute, as soone as I saw him that day. He answered, that he had not seene nor heard
them ; that they could not be of the canton of Swits, as the people talked. They might
be of the other popish cantons. But, said he, the Suitenses have newly made a decree
against that renovation of the league with France, which was lately signed by some depu-
ties of theirs, protesting, that they doe not hold themselves obliged by it at all ; that if
their delegates be so false to them, as wilfully to goe beyond their instructions, or so silly
as to suffer themselves to be over-reached by the French ambassadour, yet they will be so
true to their owne resolutions, and so wise as to refuse to ratify it. And therefore they have
set their delegates a certaine time for the getting of that instrument out of the ambassadour's
hands ; and have added some threats what they will doe, if they have it not by such a
day, &c.

The next morning very early the younger burgomaster of this city rode out towards
Tirol, three dayes journey hence, to meete with Austrian deputies, to conferre with them
about giving satisfaction to the demands and grievances of the cantons. There are
many documents, records of agreements, &c. to be read over, so that he will be abroad
a good while ; and therefore M. D. tooke his last leave of him the evening before, as re-
solving to be gone hence before the burgomaster could returne.

May 12.

This afternoone the principall secretary of this canton came to me, and shewed me let-
ters, which they had received this morning, written to the burgo-masters, &c. of all the
13 cantons from cardinal Mazarin, and dated May 4. new style ; wherein he tells them,
that they could not be ignorant, that the intestine disquiets of France had hindred the
satisfying of their demaunds, which now the king was better at leysure to thinke upon, as
they should percieve by his majestie's letter to them, which he thought fit to accompany
with one of his own, to assure them, that he was their affectionate freind. I asked the
secretary, whether the king's letter were such another empty paper as this. He answered,
that he knew not what it was, for they had received none but this ; so that they knew not
whether there was any such letter written by the king or no ; or whether the ambassadour
at Soloturn kept it by him, to send when he thought best. I asked him, whether they
would not write to Soloturn, to know what was become of the king's letter. He said,
no, we shall try what the ambassadour will doe. And besides, said he, we care not much
what becomes of it, because we shortly expect the king's answere to the letter, that was
lately written to him in the name of the protestant cantons alone, calling upon him for
satisfying the arreres of our dismissed captaines, &c. without any conditions. It was
sent about a fortnight agoe by an envoye from Zurich. He had order to tarry for an
answere. I then tooke occasion to speake at the last assembly at Araw. He said, that
there they consulted concerning Piemont, and had secretly reviewed the old articles of
confederacy among themselves, which must receive some alteration to fit them better for
these times. That of old they used once in ten yeares to renew their oath of mutuall de-
fence, &c. all over the 13 cantons ; but since the reformation of religion in Switzerland,
there had beene no general renewing of their oath, because the papists would have all
men sweare according to the old forme, [*By God and all his saints*] which the reformed
will not doe. But the protestant cantons have now beene considering, how to amend the
defects of the articles of the union among themselves. As for Piemont, they had com-
maunded

A. D. 1655.  maunded a major of Berne presently to ride poste to the duke of Savoy, and to represent their sence of his cruelty towards their brethren, and to offer their interposition for those that are yet alive. They also commanded him to bring back as full informations as he could get concerning their present estate, and the pretended causes of this furious proceeding. I told him, that we knew already some of their pretensions; but one of the true causes was the esteeme the Savoy had of the protestant cantons, looking upon them as men that had little power, and no courage to put out the strength that they have; standing so much in awe of their popish neighbours, that they dare not budge a foote in favour of any protestant church, least the popish cantons should fall upon them. He replied, that their *concordia discors* had hitherto preserved them. For, said hee, had we beene all of one religion, we could not have beene kept from intermeddling in the late German warre, that undid almost all that had to doe in it. But being so divided, wee hindred our neighbours from assisting the emperour, and they hindred us from taking the contrary side. But, said he, the truth is, the popish cantons are no lesse in amity with Savoy than wee; so that we cannot hurt him, without giving them occasion to fall out with us. We have many men, that at the reading of the letters concerning Piemont, seeme to thinke of nothing but invading Savoy, or massacring all the Savoyards that are in these countries. But few of them consider, that we are not able to finde money enough to make us fit to invade any other prince's dominions. And indeed it is the onely thing we want, for we have men inough and armes, as they shall finde, if they meddle with Geneva, as some seeme to feare they will. I reply'd, that Geneva might be eaten up, before they would agree to succour it. He said, that the posts were so well settled, that in thrice 24 houres Zurich could have newes from Geneva, and by the way Bern should heare it sooner. Their militia was in such a good order, that in 2 or 3 dayes they could have a great number of men [trained bands] whereof every one brought his armes with him. And Geneva is very well fortified, and well provided for all things requisite for the enduring a long siege, so that they cannot be over-run before succours come to them. But, said I, if Geneva should neede you, would not the greater number among you answere, we cannot for want of mony, we dare not for feare of our popish neighbours? He said Geneva being so neere, they should straine themselves very much for so short a time, as seemed sufficient to drive away any forces that should come to attacque it. I replied, if you had never so much mony, you might still pretend a feare of provoking the popish cantons. No, said he, they have no mony, nor no meanes to get any considerable summe: we have had mony, but extraordinary occasions have lately spent it. If that defect did not now hinder, we should not looke upon the popish cantons as in *aequilibrio* with ourselves, but should a great deale more readily resolve to teach the duke of Savoy, that our intercessional letters and our freindship deserved more regard. I answered, that they wanting no men nor armes, every man having his owne armes, and their magazines well stored with all sorts of weapons, &c. lesse mony would serve their turnes to begin a warre, than other nations that have nothing before hand but the great purse. He confessed, that was true, but to keep their people from discontents and disorders, they must be punctually paid, &c. I replied, that when they came into a country, where they meant to exercise all manner of hostility, they must make their enemies beare the greatest part of the charge.

I should tire you with more of this dialog, if the poste would give leave. I must trouble you no farther at this time. Yet for all his haste I will take so much time, as to subscribe myselfe,

Sir, your humble servant,

May 12, [1655.]

I pray you reade this French sheete as soone as you may.

Advice from Dantzick.

May 22, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxvi.
p. 138.

I Think, that it will not be thought improper to lay before your honours, how affairs go in these quarters, in order to communicate the same with the greater secrecy, where it is requisite. In Poland they firmly believe, that the Cossacks will be quieted with granting them good conditions and privileges, but they will have also the Russians comprehended therein, which will hardly be done. The latter have now closely besieged Dunenburch, and stormed the same twice already: they are afraid, that after the taking of the same, Wilda will not be able to make any resistance; so that all Lithuania will be lost. All the rest depends upon the approaching diet. The first and chief point, it is said, shall be, to send an embassador, with full power of the king and republick,

publick, into Sweden, to endeavour a peace to be concluded, if they do not come too late; since the likelihood of an invasion of the Swedes, both by sea and land, into these countries seems daily to encrease. A. D. 1655.

The copy of the letter, which the Swedish senators have written to the Polanders, I do not question, but has been communicated to their high mightinesses: here inclosed goes the answer, which the archbishop, instead of a receipt, has sent in the interim, three days ago, to Kock the Swedish agent here, as an excuse for the long tardiness of the Polish embassy, and in answer to the said letter.

The nobility of Upper Poland and Prussia encamp on the frontiers towards Pomerania, to make resistance in case of a sudden invasion.

Here in this city, as far as one can see, they are very diligent, by augmenting their troops, exercising and drawing up of the citizens, and especially by fortifying the circumjacent mountains to make a good defence, though for making any resistance by sea they have but a few or rather no ships at all; and as I am confidently informed, the magistrates here have been exhorted as well by the king of Poland as others, to crave assistance from their high mightinesses, but the court of this city makes difficulty to effect the same, for fear of any reproaches; and that in return for the said beneficence, some conditions might be demanded for the re-establishment and confirmation of the reformed religion, as also for the abrogation of sundry unreasonable imposts, wherewith our nation is charged here. The impositions upon our nation here are chiefly the prohibition of keeping houses, the anticipation of the duty called *Tollage*, and the demand of the tenth penny in case of leaving the town, or in case of death.

They disperse here also a certain printed paper, whereby they intend to prove for several reasons, that the Swedish design is not against this country, but against Hamburg. It is however believed, that this is only given out, to make the people secure. The magistrates here take away and call in as many of them as they possibly can.

Now they are very desirous here to know, in case this country should come into troubles, how far the neighbouring powers, viz. their high mightinesses, Denmark and England will concern themselves in their interest.

Resident Heinfius to the states general.

Stockholm, May 22, 1655. [N. S.]

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

ALL things are here making ready at present for the funeral of the queen Eleonora Vol. xxvi.
against the appointed day, which is to morrow. The ceremony will be very costly, p. 110.
but no foreign publick ministers are to assist at it.

The ambassadors of the Tartars have not yet had any audience, nor no news yet of the arrival of the long expected ambassador from Poland, who will hardly be able to reach this place before the departure of the king.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, May 22, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

YOURS I received with the reception of marquis de Lede, as many others have, Vol. xxvi.
which puts cardinal Mazarin to his wits end. They undertake, that mr. Bordeaux p. 98.
has orders from Mazarin these two posts past to conclude with the protector. I have it
from a good author, that if the protector will now assault Bordeaux prudently, he will
win the treaty and peace to his mind. I have given several hints of this before. Of a
general peace here is not a word, but ranting of some, it must be by the new pope. The
king, queen, and cardinal, gave a compliment to secretary Navarre, to be presented to
the king of Spain, that all inclinations in France are for a general peace; but this is no
new invention. Every Spanish minister that passes through France is entertained with
such like. In my time many of them past so. I hear one Thomas Talbot, a Franciscan
friar, goes from R. C. to Rome; but I am sure he will do no good, being not be-
loved in the court of Rome. Divers proclamations in print are come hither from Lon-
don against priests and friars, with an oath of abjuration for the laity. Great talk is of
it. The divines of Sorbonne say, they do not believe the second protestant in England,
or in the world besides, will take it, being an oath not to be presented against all liberty

A. D. 1655. of a christian. It is damnably censured. Count Brienne, secretary of state, swore, he would wager half his estate, the protector nor his council would take it.

Here is nothing more of news at this time, but rumours of wonders done by general Blake against the Turks. I have not the particulars, I expect them from England in due time. For the rest I refer you to the occurrents, and am,

Sir, yours.

A letter of intelligence.

May 22, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
P. 94.

HAVING received yours by this post. According the conference the cardinal had last Sunday with the first president (as I writ in my former) touching the assemblies of the parliament about the edicts, which was resolved between both, that his majesty consented they should meet to consider of the edicts, and the verifications thereof; only that his majesty desired them to have a little patience till Friday of the next week, because then they must also meet for the reception of a new counsellor, son to Mr. Catinat; and then on that occasion the parliament may consider of the verifications of the edicts. Then we shall see what shall be done; but yet some say, the king had a desire to return hither once alone to sit in parliament, of which yet nothing certain. Mr. Navarre, that was secretary of state in Flanders, having had audience (as I writ in my former) from his majesty and eminence, the king and queen desired him, as soon as he should arrive at Madrid, to assure his majesty of Spain, that they were here always very ready to make a general peace, when it pleases his majesty to think or consider of it. It is written by the last post from St. Malo's, that a vessel arrived there, that came from the Indies, which brings, that a Spanish galleon of the Spanish fleet was sunk, wherein was eight millions of pieces of eight; but being lost near the land, that they fished four millions again, and that they were in hopes yet to get more of it.

They bring also, that the English fleet, commanded by general Pen, was sailing towards the isle of St. Dominick, and for that reason they think they were to attempt something against the Spaniards. Also that if they do not attempt St. Dominick, that sure they will Cuba or Cartagena.

The count of Harcourt arrived at Chantilly since the king parted hence, where he was received by their majesty and eminence; he is come upon the word of the court, without having made any treaty. Mr. de Charlevois takes an employment for the king's service under the command of this prince Harcourt, who is to command the Lorain troops, that quitted the Spanish service in the pay of Luxemburg.

Last Saturday some body stole from the cardinal out of his cabinet 4000 pistoles, for which one of his valets de chambre is made prisoner, and another woman, being suspected, &c.

It's reported, that the duke of Mantua will arrive here next week: what may be his designs we do not yet well know, only many say, it is to sell all the goods he has in France, and accommodate with the cardinal; yet the Spaniards are afraid his voyage will be prejudicial unto themselves, because they think he comes to make a new treaty with France.

I think I writ to you before, that the king named Mr. de Levy, brother to Mr. duke d'Amvilles, bishop of Mirepoix, the bishop that was there before having given his dimission of that place to the king, who gave him that of Carcassone, and by that means has determined the great difference, that was betwixt the said Levy and marquis de Mirepoix.

The bruit we had last Friday it seems is not true, that our peace with England was concluded; being to the contrary, that Mr. de Bordeaux writ hither a letter dated the 12th instant, by which he signifies, the protector would not perform what he promised touching the conclusion of that peace; and therefore the next day he was to desire audience to take his leave, and return hither. This letter he writ to his father, but I see by yours he is yet in London.

All hopes we have of a general peace is by the assistance of God and this new pope; but we are afraid of a new peace to come between England and the Spaniard by the means of marquis de Lede.

Yesterday our letters from England were retaxed again in a manner; a small letter of 12 fols came to 24 fols, which is the strangest thing that ever was seen, about which was a great quarrel between the merchants and the postmaster, having returned all their letters to the post again; but all will not serve, and if it continues, very few will be able to pay

for their letters. Your proclamation is most cruel against catholicks; and it is not a way A. D. 1655. to make amity or friendship with catholick princes. All the world thinks, that no man should force another for his conscience, he himself not being sure of his own ways of salvation. You desire to be protector of all hugonots, and assist them when there is need; but there is no catholick prince, that desires the like against the hugonots; and therefore it's thought France or any other catholick prince will not grant the like article in a conclusion of a peace. I heard general Blake does miracles against the Turks, which is all the news known at present to,

Sir, your most real servant.

Bordeaux to his son, the French ambassador in England.

Paris, May 22, 1655. [N. S.]

MY SON,

I HAVE been to see monsieur Servien at Meudon, to whom I communicated the whole Vol. xxvi. state of your negotiation according to your two last letters. He is persuaded, that you P. 111. will not be able to conclude any thing, and that they are affected delays; and in regard he doth altogether aim at the honour and glory of this state, he cannot brook any longer the proceedings of the government where you are; and yet notwithstanding that by your orders you are writ unto to return, if so be they will not give you satisfaction, he doth esteem, that as often as any overture is made unto you, that it is more convenient to continue the negotiation than to break, in regard we have business enough without engaging in a new war; assuring me, that if so be you had orders from hence to demand audience to take your leave, that it was done with an intention to advance the treaty, and not a breach, upon a belief we had here that the lord protector would not let it come to this last extremity, in regard of the essential reason of their own good. And yet in regard it is very dangerous to give you any certain advice upon this resolution of rupture or continuation, upon which I pray'd him to give me his counsel and opinion, he did freely confess to me as my friend, he did advise me to inspire into you rather a continuation of abode a longer time with lawful pretences of an overture and accommodation, than a resolution of returning, which he told me could not be but very disadvantageous to those, who did procure a publick good through their service; and that it was but just to recompence the ministers of state; and likewise that it was usual to lay the fault upon them, if business succeed otherwise than is expected. And withal he added, that he would take care to secure you your assignments for your re-imbursment, that so you might not suffer too great a loss that way in case of bad success. If there be any faith to be given to his promise, you are like to have your money. He withal did conceive, that you ought to signify to the protector, that if he will observe [*les mesures d'honneur*] the methods of honour, which ought to be among sovereigns, that he ought not to have delayed the signing of the treaty or the rupture till the arrival of the ambassador extraordinary of Spain; and that it is to make you serve for his triumph; and by this proceeding he will give far greater offence to the king your master; and that your delays and bearing of several injuries might have altered his inclinations, but they are not so injurious as to alter them. He likewise told me, that upon the two new propositions, the one about the merchants and contraband goods, and the other for the liberty of merchants, that you may for the first agree to have it reciprocal; and as for the other, it was an exception, which could not be granted, because such a permission cannot be given to the merchants, but by consent of the sovereign; and consequently that it would be the same thing, as if he himself did assist our enemies. He charged me, that I should write you word, that you must, upon the first article of equal power agreed to the Hollanders by our treaties of contraband goods, tell the commissioners or the protector himself, if it be possible, that he ought not to desire to see his people in the condition of the Hollanders, who are rendered so powerfull amongst themselves, that they do trade and deal with all nations without submitting themselves to the laws of the countries where they come; and that it would be unhappy, if within his authority the merchants should have this faculty to treat for their freights and ladings without his orders and permission. He also added, that to save the honour of your treaty, you were to insist to have the articles signed, as they are resolved and agreed on; and by private articles consent and promise the two last demands, provided they be reciprocal. This is that, which I got out of him; you may do herein as you shall think fit. You may make your reflections upon what he hath told me; for my part, I judge it more convenient, that you should execute the orders of the court, rather than expose the state to so many indignities, which are said to be received through your weakness and residence there, without any fruit or satisfaction either for yourself or for us.

Letter

Letter of convocation of the lords the states of Holland.

HONOURABLE, &c.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvi.
p. 108.

THE lords the states of Holland and Westfriesland did lately part with a firm belief, that the members could not take upon them to give their absolute consent to the collecting of the known augmentation of convoys to make good the charges of the new intended equipment; and therefore, that they would apply for the said consent, within the limited time, and comply with the issue thereof, where and as it behoves. But whereas, against expectation, a letter is sent to us from the burgomasters and governors of the city of Amsterdam, bringing the said consent on the one side, but on the other side absolutely putting off the raising of the so called *laft en veyl gelt*, for the motives and reasons expressed in the said letter, a copy whereof goes here inclosed; and in order to put a stop to the intentions of the said lords, and to make them alter their resolution, we have decreed for that purpose a special deputation, but all to no purpose; so that no more can be done by us therein. And because the said affair is of great weight, and of a momentous consequence, for the service of the country, we did not think it proper to leave the same undecided any longer; and therefore we have thought it necessary, to summon an assembly of the said lords the states of Holland and Westfriesland, to meet together on tuesday the first of the ensuing month of June, to deliberate and resolve upon the said subject, and what belongs to the same; very friendly and earnestly desiring, that your honours would be pleased to send your deputies hither against the said day, with such instructions, whereby the service of this state may be promoted and considered: which we depend upon.

At the Hague, May 22, 1655. [N. S.]

P. S.

Add to this, that the projected resolution of the 13th of May last past, concerning the new equipment, is sufficiently opposed by the letters from all the sea-port towns.

A letter of intelligence.

Rome, May 24, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 137.

YOURS of the 22d of last month I received, by which manifestly I see the protector is as he was ever wonted, victorious, and poor R. C. for ever undone. Poor fools, that rise for him, must hang; and that is the usual pay of royal armies now adays. Yet some royalists here will have a general peace presently made by this pope, and R. C. quarrel undertaken by the universality of catholicks; but this is not the first vain toss they have had here of this nature. It matters not; but since my last I can tell you something more solid touching the peace betwixt the two crowns; for this pope is really resolved by all the means he can to have it done, and that with as much expedition as may be. To which purpose he writ lately to the kings of France and Spain to forbear being too forward in their treaty with the protector; in answer to which letters are expected in due time. An express is sent to Spain, because there is no nuncio there, but not to Paris, only a letter in the nuncio's way, one being resident there. This pope being a familiar acquaintance of the emperor's, has a great affection and respect to him, and writ much to him of this peace. Time will let you know I speak truth, and that great endeavours shall be for the said peace. This pope studies much how to make bishops in Portugal, but without prejudice to the king of Spain, which is a difficult work. There is no more of it here at present. His holiness has sent to the duke of Modena to make his peace with Spain; and it is thought by the means of the Barbarinis he will prevail, they being the greatest with him. Great preparations are making in Naples, which, 'tis thought, will march against Modena, if a reconciliation be not made. There are now four red caps vacant.

I hear prince Camillo Pamfilio is absolved from his title of general, but none as yet in his place. The Venetian ambassador came hither to congratulate his holiness; to morrow he is to execute that office.

It is certain the pope gives to the states of Venice all the profits attributed to the offices of being general to the church, general of the galleys, and all forts in his territories; as also of Chastelain, castle of St. Angelo, &c. In the mean time he ordered the

troops

troops he raised for the service of that commonwealth, to march to Ferrara, from whence they shall be sent to Venice. A. D. 1655.

They talk here of a marriage to be betwixt prince Borghese his nephew, and a niece of this pope's. *Aliquid carnis & sanguinis*. None of his holiness's friends are yet permitted to come to court.

His holiness ordered to examine the cause of imprisonment of monsieur Savelli and others committed by the late pope. They are all after by his holiness's commands set at liberty. It was remarked, his holiness having a mind to buy some of the house furniture belonging to the late deceased cardinal Montalto, all those, that have had interest in the said goods, endeavoured to make a present to his holiness of what he had a mind to buy, which he refused, and paid more than the value for as much as he bought.

Many cardinals parted from hence lately; some to their archbishopricks and bishopricks, others to their other stations, being thereto required. And so you have this last week's news from, sir,

Yours, &c.

Copy of a letter written from Paris unto mr. Petit, the 22 May, by one of the English merchants interested in the seizures made upon them at St. Malo.

SIR,

THIS is to inform you of the mainlevée pure and single granted unto me, for part of the seizures made upon us at St. Malo, which I thought fit to follow apart since your departure. I have already received the decree thereof; it orders me charges, damages, and interests, which I will cause to be taxed, amounting to above 10000 livres Tournois. It's a great prejudication for all the rest. We perceive well the effect of a good going on of the affairs, and of the protection you have given me to understand. The count of Brienne has also dispatched the three letters *de cachet* of the king, whereof you had hopes given you by the last orders, to supersede the suit in law our parties thought to have made in your absence against mr. James Thurston, our countryman, dwelling at Bourdeaux. Vol. xxvi. P. 167.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to his father.

MY LORD,

I DID expect to hear of the admiration, whereof you write me word, which my letter did occasion, wherein I gave notice of the audience I had demanded to take my leave. I do no less admire at the strange proceedings of this state, whose interest I always did conceive to be, to agree with France. If my conjectures are false, they had at least very great ground; and it is not a crime in an ambassador to penetrate into the secrets of those, with whom men treat. All that I can perceive at present is, that they will endeavour to delay me for some longer time. They promised me a resolution this day; but the lord protector and most of the council have been in the country these three days, and from whence they returned this afternoon; and my chiefest commissioner is remaining still in the country. However I did not fail to send to the secretary of state, who sent me word, that his highness had taken some resolution upon my affairs on friday last; and that it should be sent to me very suddenly. This answer doth not afford me any matter to write to the court; therefore you may be pleased to signify so much unto them, in regard you know I will not give them any hope of expedition, having been deceived so often; but if one may judge of it by the discourse of the ministers, and likewise of the lord protector himself, one might consider the treaty as good as concluded, and ready to be signed. However I have advice, that they will still delay me from time to time; but the orders of the court, nor my domestick affairs, will not permit me to forbear any longer. Wherefore I will not defer my departure, if speedy satisfaction be not given me; and if the ministers of France be of another mind, they ought, without loss of time, to explain themselves, and provide at the same time for my subsistence; for life is the foundation of all actions. If I have not wherewithal to maintain it, it is in vain to think of my abode here, or of doing any good service. Vol. xxvi. P. 140.

The Spanish ambassador had audience on friday last: his overtures are not yet come to my knowledge: he doth all that he can to hinder the conclusion of our treaty.

They are still freighting of ships to send to America. Here is news come, that the gallies of Spain will not arrive this summer, at which the merchants are very much troubled.

May 24, 1655. [N. S.]

VOL. III.

5 T

To

To the states general.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvi.
p. 209.

MY lords, according to, and in obedience of your high mightinesses resolution of the 16th of this current month, we set out (most of us) on Wednesday the 19th following from the Hague, and arrived here at Groningen on the 23d instant in the morning, about 8 o'clock, except mr. Aylva (whom we found here, and understood that he was arrived already, on Friday last the 21st of this month, in obedience to your high mightinesses letter of the 16th past) and the counsellor pensionary de Witt, who likewise arrived here yesterday towards the evening. Whereupon in the first place, and especially, messieurs Lodestein and Aylva aforementioned, in compliance with your high mightinesses resolution and authorisation granted to the lord Schoock, bearing date the 17th instant, and delivered into the hands of the said lord Schoock, did promise upon their oath, which they had here before taken to the state, that they would exactly regulate themselves according to the last article of our instructions, agreed to, on the 16th instant, and to the resolution of the 10th of August, 1651. where we inserted that promise, which the other deputies of your high mightinesses had made, in the hands of the lord president, before their departure, in the assembly of your high mightinesses.

My lord the Prince William of Nassaw, being present *in loco*, paid us his compliments, in honour of your high mightinesses, immediately after our arrival, viz. after the forenoon's sermon; in the afternoon we paid him our contra-visit, wherein only the customary expressions of civility and compliments were used.

The lords vander Hoolck and Ripperda are not yet arrived here; however we expect them very soon; and whereas we think it to be your high mightinesses intention, that we should hasten our conferences, as much as possible, we will wait for the arrival of the said absent lords: however, under your high mightinesses approbation, we will begin to prepare matters, and do follow your high mightinesses good intention, as much as lies in our power.

Groningen, May 14, 1655.

Wherewith, &c.

High and mighty lords, &c.

(signed)

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| H. Schoock. | J. de Mauregnault. |
| E. V. Lodestein. | John van Aylva. |
| John de Witt. | J. Schuylenborgh. |

Positiones serenissimo et celsissimo domino domino protectori Magnæ Britanniae humillimè oblatæ.

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

1. **C**ELSISSIMÆ suæ serenitati Angliæ, Scotiæ, et Hiberniæ domino protectori, celsissimus Transylvaniæ princeps amicitiam suam sinceram, omniaque ea studia, quæ ad eam comparandam et conservandam facere possunt, significat et defert. Quæ si suæ celsissimæ serenitati grata futura est, vicissim nihil gratius et acceptius erit suæ celsitudini Transylvaniæ principi, quam mutuae cointelligentiæ et correspondentiæ erigere utrinque monumentum, si dignum et utile suæ celsissimæ serenitati videbitur.

2. Percrebuit ad aures celsitudinis Transylvaniæ principis fama non vulgaris, confederationem inter populum Angliæ, regnum Sueciæ, foederati Belgii Unitas Provincias, extincto cum illis bello, stabilitam esse, pro bono publico, pro gloria Dei, pro libertate oppressarum gentium et conscientiarum. Ideò an talia foedera, quæ orbi Christiano in hac nunc horribili passim persecutione maximoperè optanda essent, jam rata sint; aut an propositum sit, aut verisimilitudo talia foedera aliquando inuendi, sua celsitudo Transylvaniæ princeps cognoscere expetit, & benevolam informationem desiderat.

3. Cum sua celsitudo Transylvaniæ princeps eo locorum positus sit, utpotè non solum ad viciniam in Poloniâ strepentium armorum, verùm cum tanta etiam orbis concussio ubique sentiatur, ut meritò longius prospiciendum sit, omnino maximè necessarium putat intelligere celsissimæ suæ serenitatis ulterius intentum, quo se nempe conatus ardui propositi, quod celsissima sua serenitas in animo volvere dicitur, reflectat; præsertim tam insigni et omnibus stupendo omnium rerum ad militiam spectantium apparatu, tam mari quam terra comparato. Quocirca sua celsitudo Transylvaniæ princeps enixè expetit, ut celsissima sua serenitas non dedignetur suam celsitudinem certam reddere de hac suâ intentione et animi proposito, quocunque etiam spectet in hac rerum et orbis commotione, quantum per rationem

nem status fieri licet, et quousque arcana reipublicæ communicare fas est, cum hac certâ A. D. 1655.
et infallibili asscuratione, quâ suam celsissimam serenitatem asscurandam jubet Transyl-
vania princeps, non defuturum suæ celsitudini Transylvaniæ principi ergâ gloriam Dei,
et publicum bonum promovendum, quantum per circumstantiam status suæ celsitudinis
Transylvaniæ principis licebit, zelum quoque ad communem juvandam causam, dummodo
liquidò intelligere possit celsissimæ suæ serenitatis reflexionem.

Quæ si sua celsitudo Transylvaniæ princeps obtinebit, nimirum ut in his omnibus tem-
pestivè informetur, rem gratissimam et desideratissimam obtinebit pro voto; quam pari
studio sua celsitudo relatum erit. Quorum informatio non faciet solum ad fundamentum
futuræ cointelligentiæ, quam sua celsitudo procul omni dubio majore solennitate quam
nunc sit, stabiliendam curabit, verum ad tempestivam etiam circumspeditionem, quâ sibi
sua celsitudo Transylvaniæ princeps prospiciet, tam de internâ securitate regni & princi-
patus sui, quam de mediis melius ordinandis, quæ in futurum servire poterunt causæ publicæ.

Hæc me cum debitâ submissione serenissimo et celsissimo Magnæ Britannia domino
protectori nomine celsissimi Transylvaniæ principis proposuisse testor ¼ Maii 1655.

Constantin. Schaum, à celsissimo Transylvaniæ principe ablegatus.

The prince of Transylvania's envoy to secretary Thurloe.

Magnifice ac generosè domine secretarie, domine observandissime,

EX jussu & mandato serenissimi & celsissimi Angliæ, Scotiæ, & Hiberniæ domini
protectoris, positiones illas, quas nuper ore tenus proposui, in scripto transmittito. Ob-
nix rogo, ut celsissimæ suæ serenitati domino protectori cum debitâ meâ observantiâ offe-
rantur, adjectâ hac humillimâ petitione, ut tandem hinc clementissimè dimittar ad ingre-
diendum iter meum, quod sanè longinquum habeo.

In the posses-
sion of the
right honour-
able Philip
lord Hard-
wicke, lord
high chancel-
lor of Great-
Britain.

Si etiam fieri potest, rogo, ut magnifica vestra generositas haud gravatim mihi velit tem-
pus designare, quo eam convenire possim quædam conferendi gratiâ cum magnificâ vestrâ
dominatione, quam bene valere cupio,

Vestræ generosæ magnificentia servitor,

CONSTANTIN. SCHAUM,

Principis celsissimi Transylvaniæ familia-
ris & secretarius pro tempore ablegatus.

The prince of Condé to Barriere.

Brussels, May 25, 1655. [N. S.]

I HAVE advice from Spain, which doth assure me, that I shall receive *fifty thousand* Vol. xxvi.
escus of the money, which the lord de Cardenas hath in his hands. I pray you give p. 145.
notice thereof to the said lord, that the money may be ready, for I expect to receive
sufficient orders for the same by the next post, and I will presently send one into England
to receive that money. In the mean time see, if you can prevail with my lord protector,
to let me have a man of war to bring over my money safe; otherwise it must be made
over by bill of exchange. See what can be done, and do herein as you shall think fit;
and in regard I owe still something to the Irish, be sure you let no body know, that I have
money in England, but give out that it is some money of the king of Spain's.

General Monck to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I HAVE received your letter dated the 7th of May, and am glad to heare that the Vol. xxvi.
fleet gott soe well forward. The shippes kept together, and the men had their health p. 151.
soe well, for which blessed bee God, in whom (I hope) wee shall heare of their good suc-
cess. Wee have little newes heere. All those, that are out in armes, have made appli-
cations to come in, and (I beleieve) will conclude before there be grasse for horse in the hills.
I beleieve we shall not have much to doe this summer, but to provide our garrisons with
provisions this winter.

I have thought fit to acquaint you with a particular (in case there should bee any appli-
cation made by the Scots in Leith to his highness concerning mr. Hogg their minister) to
prevent misinformation.

I have

A. D. 1655: I have given orders to the deputy governor to permit the said mr. Hogg to preach noe more there, which I did, because of the great resort of Scotche people to the towne to his churche; and indeede it might endanger the looseing that towne, if their meetings there continued; for there mett sometimes 1500 neere our magazin, whence they might come (when the forces are at other churches and meeteing places for the worship of God) to seize on our magazin, and make themselves masters of the towne; in respect whereof, and that the said mr. Hogg preached for Charles Stuart, this was don. I remaine

Dalkeith, May 15,

Your most affectionat friend and servant,

1655.

GEORGE MONCK.

Mr. Secretary.

Secretary Thurloe to H. Cromwell, major general of the army in Ireland.

MY LORD,

In the posses-
sion of the
right honour-
able the earl
of Shelburn.

YOUR lordship will receive herewith coppies of two letters, which I received the last weeke, whereby you will see the condition the poore protestants are in in the dominions of the duke of Savoy. There is noe question, but all our popish neighbours have the same minde, and will fall to the like worke, as they have opportunitie. And I doe assure your lordship, the government heere want not fence of these proceedings, and I hope will expresse a iust zeale therein, as the Lord affords them meanes. In the meane tyme letters will be writ on their behalfe. The French army is takeinge the field; the king will comaund it in person, and it's sayd to be very stronge, at least 37000 stronge; the Spanyard seemes to be in noe wyse able to resist hym, and therefore must probablie be upon a defensive posture. All the discourse now is concerninge the Swede, who is with an army of 50000 in Pomerland, marchinge towards Prussia; and, as is sayd particularly against Dantzicke, which is under the protection of the kinge of Poland; and if he masters this place, it will be more worth to hym then all his kingdome of Sweden. He will by this have the comaund of all the trade in the Baltique sea, haveinge besides a good fleete of 36 men of warre, with which he will besedge the sayd towne at sea. The states generall are very apprehensive of this designe of the Swede, which they have great reason for, in respect all their trade in those parts, which is very great, will be brought under the power of the Swede. Wee cannot yet conclude with France: sometymes wee are neare a close, but at other tymes very farre asunder; in the meane tyme wee have had heere a Spanishe extraordinary embassador from Spayne about 10 dayes. He hath made some tender of an allyance upon extraordinary termes; what they are like to come to, you may easily judge: Our old enemies have not yet quit their hopes; they are upon new designes, and that which they most intend now is the murder of the protector. I thinke their will be a necessitie to deale with that generation of men, as the Irish are dealt with in Ireland. It is certeyne they are restlesse in their attempts; it is certeyne, Middleton is gone out of Scotland beyond sea; soe that wee hope that countrey may be settled this summer. And when the comon enemy is downe, I wish our old friends doe not give trouble: but I trust the Lord will in his owne good tyme make peace amongst his own people. Your Lordship need not feare, that places and offices to be settled in Ireland shall be supplied heere. I doe assure you, that there is noe such intention, but to leave that to your lordship; nor will they be hastie heere to send you judges, before you are acquainted with them. I have not further to trouble your lordship with, but to subscribe me

Your lordship's most humble servant,

Whitehall, May 15, 55.

JOHN THURLOE.

Paulus Pels, the Dutch commissioner, to monsieur de Bye.

Dantzick, May 26, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 152.

OUR condition is here still uncertain; we do arm and fortify ourselves as well as we can against the invasion of the Swedes; pray God, there may be no need of it. The king, after the general meeting, is expected in Prussia. We do hope a good accommodation will be made with the Cossacks, and it may be likewise with the Muscovites, whose armies are miserably ruined through the plague.

A letter

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, May 26, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

YOURS I received by this post, by which I see you have no great news in England, Vol. xxvi. all being quiet. The audience of the Spanish ambassador is no small trouble to us. P. 162 We fear much he will obstruct our peace with the protector, with giving cities and forts to the protector, as I writ formerly; but some at council here certainly aver, the king of Spain will never do it. However, mr. Bordeaux wants not new instigations every week to proceed and conclude in this treaty, of which you will know more there in time.

Several relations are here from Savoy touching the Hugonots.

I have seen a letter from Turin of the 12th instant, which imports thus: That the principal circumstances confirmed from Vallée de Lucerne are, that 3000 Hugonots were slain and perished in the snow. Also that 1500 catholics were slain upon the place. That there were 3000 houses of the Hugonots burnt with all their places of devotion. It is confirmed also, that 300 children of the Hugonots were taken by the catholics, and are now entertained and instructed by them in that religion.

The Valée of St. Martin, which was fortified by the hugonets that fled away, is surrendered, and the booty the catholics took from the Hugonots came to 15000 bestials, besides quantity of gold and silver, with other riches, which is the last news from Savoy; and what further I can learn you shall have since you so earnestly desire it.

Our recruits of Switzers this season are 6000, all in their march to Champagne to join with Turenne.

Our recruits from Bretagne being 4000 are in their march to Picardy, and the marquis of Castlenau meets them the last of this month at Abbeville. All the volontiers are gone, and you have now no more from,

Sir, yours.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, May 26, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

THE last letters from Nantz bring us, how Marechal de la Ferté arrived there with Vol. xxvi: his wife, who had her received most gallantly both by his army and the townsmen. P. 158. First he caused all his troops to advance within 12 leagues to that city, where they were in order, as if they were to give a battle; by which she was received with great honour and respect, and marched in her company three leagues from that place, where they met all the dames of Nantz, both in coaches, and the most part a horse-back, and in order as the troops that conveyed her before. They all came and complimented highly this lady, singing and dancing, having people with them with their instruments to that effect. They gave her a royal collation, after which they marched all in order, till they were within half a league to the city, where they found all the burghers in arms, which saluted her several times with their muskets and the artillery of the city playing during their salutations; and between both the gates of the city they met with the citizens, who made long and eloquent speeches before that lady, great fires in all the streets, fountains of wine given out the town; besides made her a present of silver plate for her table gilded with gold, worth 5000 pistoles, with a little casket of 100 pistoles, wherein was worth 300 pistoles of fine laces and rare little things. The said marechal has given to mr. de Roisselau, uncle to his wife, the government of Mirecour, the charge and lieutenancy of gens d'armes to chevalier de Fourville, another friend of her's, which is all of that story.

The rendezvous of marechal Turenne's army will consist of 277 companies, and his horse of 150 companies; and the army of marechal Senneterre will be in number 10000 men, who will have his rendezvous near Stenay; and besides them, mr. le Bar will command a flying party of 5000 horse. Some say the king will go in person with that army of Turenne.

Last saturday some of the parliament were resolved to make their assemblies against the first president's advice, which was like to be troublesome; but were pressed so by the said first president and many others in the behalf, and especially mr. de Grandmont, who was resolved to go unto that assembly himself, and bring with him 15 companies of the guard, which staid here on purpose for that occasion; in fine, that they were as yet deferr'd, 'till further orders, and the 15 companies of the guard are gone away yesterday, by reason they saw nothing to be in that matter.

Vol. III.

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The

A. D. 1655.

The duke of Orleans's wife and daughter parted last thursday for Blois, where they will stay about eight or ten days; and yesterday madam de Guise parted hence to meet them at Orleans, to sign the accommodation of their differences, which you heard of before.

Madammoiselle Martinozzi parted hence last thursday, to meet the king at Compiègne; and to that purpose those that sing for the king are gone away all with their instruments. Her marriage was published last sunday in the parish of St. Germain de Leurenois.

The cardinal got the 4000 pistoles stolen, for which he imprisoned one of his valets de chambre, and another woman; but we do not yet hear how he got it.

It's written from Languedoc, that count de Rieux, second son to the duke of Elbeuf, taking the air at Privas one day, a certain gentleman passing by him, who did not salute him (as some say) because he did not see him; however the said count's men advertized their master of it, who presently ran after the gentleman, to offend him; upon which the gentleman drew his sword, to defend himself; but the count's men, seeing of that, beat well the gentleman, who being known in town, the people rose in his behalf, and did not spare either the count or his men, which were all wounded, and two made prisoners; but the consul came and accommodated the business next day, and set the two men at liberty.

The bishops deputed here from the clergy of Languedoc have orders from that province, to enquire a bishoprick for the abbot Beauregard, heretofore a general agent for the clergy; and to represent to his majesty, that every one that had the like commission before him, was recompensed by the king with a bishoprick.

Last thursday four gazetteers were committed to prison, for selling privately in print the copy of cardinal de Retz his letter to the clergy of France, two or three months ago, as you heard of before.

The states of Bretagne, which were to meet the 6th of next month, are deferred yet to the 15th.

The marriage of monsieur the grand master of the artillery, is deferred also till after this campaign; yet his majesty continues his affection for his mistress still.

We are afraid our treaty with England will be deferred by the means of that extraordinary ambassador from Spain; and the wife of our ambassador there is resolved to go for England, thinking her husband must stay yet longer than he thinks.

Our letters are here of late so high taxed, that we shall not be able to pay the post. And I am sure many will give over correspondence by reason of that, which is also wished by,

Sir, your most humble servant.

A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.

Paris, $\frac{16}{18}$ May, 1655.

Vol. xxvi.
p. 165.

THE king and the whole court parted on last saturday from Chantilli for Compiègne, where he arrived at night. The ceremonies of mademoiselle Martinozzi's wedding with the duke of Modena's son, (who will be represented by the prince Eugene, prince Thomas's son) are to be performed there to day or to morrow; and the said lady will in consequence be led unto her spouse by mr. de Noailles.

The duke of Mantua is expected here. He will be lodged in the Louvre, and feasted 8 days at the king's charges. This prince's voyage causeth many discourses, and one can hardly guess the motive thereof: time will bring it to light.

All the troops march to their rendezvous, and mr. de Turenne is gone to the Quesnoy, to give orders there until the forces be assembled. The enemys do also gather together. It's written from Bruxells, that mr. le prince will command towards Luxembourg, the earl of Brouy upon the river of Lis, and Fuensaldagna another body; that they hope to have a great number of horse, but very few foot.

The count of Broglie parted last week for Modena, and all the troops of Dauphiné and Provence, which are to serve in the Milanese and for the duke of Modena, march so, that the campaign will doubtless be fine in those parts. Mr. de St. André Montbrun will command under prince Thomas, as also mr. de Refuge, an old and experienced captain, who some years since had had no employment.

The diet of Hungary continueth still, and the divisions, which were there between the papists and protestants, have hitherto hindered the conclusion, as well as the crowning of the emperor's son.

The Swedish armaments continue, and their designs are so secret, that all Germany is in pain thereof, but cannot yet discover it.

The

The baron of Navarre coming from Bruxells for Spain, as you have heard, hath conferred here with some of our ministers of state at the count of Brienne's house, and hath exhorted them to a generall peace.

Another letter unto the said mr. Petit by one of the deputies of the religion, of the same date.

SIR,

MY last will have informed you of the extreame straight, wherein our poor brethren Vol. xxvi. subjects to the dutchess of Savoy are reduced by her violence. Those that are done p. 166. unto us, do daily give us cause to humble ourselves before God, and to pray him for the prosperity of my lord protector. I pray you consider, how we have been dealt with at Florenfac, soon after the commissioners had re-established there the exercise of the religion, according to the king's will; the papists having hindered those of the religion from meeting, and driving them from the place where they were to assemble, and seeing that most part of them were in a neighbouring house, they broke open the doors, beat both men and women, and plundered it. The minister being taken, and endeavouring to save himself over the houses, was drawn along by the hair, and put out of the city, with prohibitions not to return thither under penalty of life; all this being done by the consuls themselves at the head of the people. We hope that the peace between these two states being once ended, will serve for a bit unto our enemies, by reason they will be obliged to consider us more than ever, and that our persecutors will fear to become the subject of a new misunderstanding, especially if the prosperity of England do but increase according unto our wishes, and the likelihood his highness's vigorous government gives thereof.

From Turin $\frac{2}{8}$ May, 1655.

THE count of Broglio arrived here about the end of the last week, and will shortly Vol. xxvi. pass into Modena with a body of an army, which is to be shipped in the armada p. 168. now preparing in Provence.

The forces assemble in these parts to begin the campaign about the latter end of next month. The governor of Milan hasteneth his preparatives both for his defence on his side, as also towards Modena. The protestants of the valley of Lucerne have gathered themselves to the number of 800, and have cantoned themselves in the hills, from whence they come down unawares, and do not only plunder all that they can find, but also commit unheard of cruelties against all the papists they can light on. For which purpose his royal highness is resolved to send thither 3000 horse to hinder their courses.

The states general to the duke of Savoy.

Maii 27, 1655. [N. S.]

Tres haut, tres puissant, & tres excellent prince,

NOUS venons d'estre informez a nostre tres grand & sensible regret du detestable Vol. xxvi. massacre, qui depuis n'aguere a este commis a l'encontre de ceux de la religion des p. 176. Valdois, qui durant quelques siecles se sont conservez dans les vallees d'Angrogne & de Pragelas sous la jurisdiction de vostre altesse, en Piedmont, dont un infini de tout age & sexe, par une cruauté horrible, & execution toute barbare, auroit este immolé a la fureur de leurs adversaires, non obstant les sauvegardes, qui de temps leur ont esté donnez de la part de vos predecesseurs, aussy bien que de vostre altesse mesme. Or comme nous avons esté touchez d'un tres sensible de plaisir de ce malheureux disastre survenu a tant de pauvres Chrestiens, dont le sang innocent pourra un jour crier vengeance envers Dieu, comme celuy d'Abel, nous avons creu estre de nostre devoir, & compassion Chrestienne, comme intercessez dans la conservation de tous ceux, qui font profession de la religion reformée, de prier & requerer tres instamment vostre altesse, comme nous faisons de tout nostre cœur & affection par ces presentes, qu'il luy plaise par un instinct vrayement Chretien de prendre elle mesme la cognoissance de la cause & plaintes de ces pauvres Chrestiens persecutez, sans les renvoyer a ceux, qui se disent estre de la congregation de la propagation de la, & de l'extirpation des heretiques, leurs adversaires jures & formels, qui au lieu de les convaincre par des raisons solides & esclatantes fondees en la parole de Dieu, contre toutes les reigles de la douceur & charité Chrestienne,

A. D. 1655. & le commendement expres de nostre seigneur & redempteur Jesus Christ, les ont persecutez a feu & a sac. Ensemble qu'il plaife a vostre altesse de donner les ordres necessaires, que les sanglantes & barbares persecutions contre ces pauvres innocents & miserables puissent cesser au plustost, & le reste de ce petit troupeau estre remis dans leurs biens & terres, qui leur ont estre ostées & ravies avec tant d'inhumanité & injustice. Vostre altesse fera en cecy un œuvre digne de sa grandeur & justice; & nous ne manquerons pas de prier Dieu, de luy vouloir inspirer des conseils moderés & salutaires a la conservation d'une partie de ses fidelles subjects, qui n'ayant jamais eu autre but, selon que nous en sommes informes, que la gloire de Dieu & l'exaltation de son grand nom sous une parfaite obeissance a leur princes, se sont reposez sur le sauvegarde & protection, que vos ancestres, & vostre altesse mesme leur avoient departies; en quoy faisant vostre altesse nous obligera de plus en plus de demeurer, &c.

Mr. Morell to secretary Thurloe.

Paris, May 27, 1655. [N. S.]

RIGHT HONNORABLE,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 182.

MY letters from Marcellis of the 18th May advise mee, that after my long patience, and unwearied transactions, with this state, itt hath pleased God to release our Lady Fryett, and deliver her out of that port, which is as badd as Tunis; so that howeaver they name ther king absolute, unless wee bee his friends, they finde it is but tittuler. St. Mallo's, Nance, Tholloone, yee most of his ports and governors, are as many petty kings, whom he fears to check, till the contract of our amitie bee syned, which makes him absolut. I have returned thanks to the cardenall by letters; for the byassing of inferiours ought not in equity and justice lessen my respect and syvillitie to him, who is sensible of the trouble given mee, in which hee suffers, and must, untill England and France bee friends. The crowned Lyon is now my next worke, which I hope will com offe easier, now thoes parties see I act not, but on grounds, which must dishonour ther state to refuse mee.

From Tholoone they writt mee, that generall Blake hath bin refused provisions by 2 ports of the Spaniards on the Turkey shore, and so is gonn to Arger for them, and then whom.

Du Poll, commander in cheefe under the duke of Vandome, will rejoyce att his absence, ife itt prove trew. Wee are here modestly unsyvill with the king: he commanded the parliament of Paris not to assemble, and to pass his edicts. They have assembled, and voted the edicts may not pass for manie reasons, which his majesty is to bee desired to take into consideration, and to direct for tyme to com in the accustomed: in English thus, the king will have his will ther law; and this parliament will give it a bridle, and curb to reason and publicke good.

Wee have it from good hands, as they say, that the trettey with France is syned; my vote is for that, many reasons mee indusing, and yett making reflection on the Spaniards grav complaint and greate cost to gaine his interrest on us. Prudencie, yee and polley, whisper mee, that his highness cannot give his result so suddenly. God direct him and his council, as may most conduce to God's glory, and ther the publicke will finde the greatest quiet and comfort; which shall be the unfeygned desires of him, that as in duty remaynes,

Your honour's most humble servant,

H. MORRELL.

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 175.

THER is a very worthy person heare, one mr. Standish, the receiver general of Ireland, who hath long and faithfully served the state, and truly deserved from the publicke. If it be considered what dilligence and faithfullness he hath expressed, it will be manifest he is a person exceedingly meriting his desires to take some bishopp's lands in Ireland. I shall only presume to recommend him to your special favor, that if he makes his perticuler application to the counsell about the same, that he may receive some mark of favor. His case is very singular; he hath longe served, and now when as others are in hopes of reaping some fruits of their former labours, by having their lands sett out

out for arrears, he hath none. I think I may say with much confidence, that ther was never any person in his capacity served a state with greater faithfullnes and good husbandry then himselfe. If the Lord had not blest his endeavors, and given him a most faithfull, carfull, and dilligent heart, to husband his imployment to the best advantage, Ireland had beine in a sadde condition probably longe before this time; and though I am sparing in recommending perticuler persons concernment (knowing the necessities, which lye upon the publick) yet considering his case different from others, I thought it convenient to intreat your interest and favorable assistance in what he shall present to his highnes or counsell, which will further oblige

A. D. 1655.

Your very affectionate frinde and servant,

May 17, 1655.

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

Mr. Hugh Grove's speech on the scaffold at Exeter Castle, May 17, 1655.

GOOD PEOPLE;

I WAS never gully of much rhethorick, nor ever loved long speeches in my life; Vol. xxvii. p. 171.
therefore you cannot expect either of them at my death.

All that I shall desire of you, besides your hearty prayers for my soul, is, that you would bear me witness, I dye a true son of the church of England, as it was established by king Edward the VIth, queen Elizabeth, king James, and king Charles of ever blessed memory; and that I dye a loyal subject to king Charles the second, my undoubted sovereign, and a lover of the good old laws of the land, the just priviledges of parliament, the rights and liberties of the people; for the re-establishing of all which I undertooke this design, and for which I am now ready to lay down my life. God forgive the judges and councill for perverting the law; and God forgive the bloody minded jury, and all those that procured them: God forgive Crooke for denying and for swearing his articles so unworthily. And God forgive mr. Dove and the rest, for swearing so falsly and maliciously against me. And God forgive all my enemies, for I heartily forgive them. Now God blest the king, and all those that love him, and turn the hearts of all them that hate him: God blest you all, and God be merciful unto you, and to my soul. Amen.

Taken in short hand upon the scaffold
by N. I. a true lover of his, and his
constant visitant in prison.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

I Cannot give you any certain advys, whether Spayn and the Genowes are agreed, being Vol. xxvi. p. 190.
here affirmed both wayes. However tis uncertain, whether theyr plate fleet be arrayvd; and if it should want but one year, that king were undone, for that pollitick Machiavillian way of government is so pernicious to mankynd, that his country is voyd of people, and without money he can raise no men. The general language of Jewes in all places, where I have bin, is Spanish, which shewes they are come most from thence; and I by experience have seen many hundreds, if not some thousands, landed here. A ship seldom comes from Spayn, but she brings many Jewes hether, amongst whom the affaires of all the Spanish dominions is very well known. A doctor of fisick of that nation told me 3 dayes since, that theyr learned Rabbins say, a great king of Europ must shortly fly into the West Indies, whom they take to be the king of Spayn, driven by his necessities. I hope general Vennables will share with him there. I have not heard any thing from generall Blak since the 14 April. 'Tis supposed the fleet is gone for Argier. 10 French ships of war and some gallyes are lately gone out of Toulon with 3000 soldiers supposed for Cattalonia. The Spaniard is sending 6 ships from Naples, with the same commodity likewise for Cattalonia. My correspondent at Naples has hether to found only one mare to his liking. I am,

Right honourable,

May 28, 1655. [N. S.]

Your most faithfull servant;

CHARLES LONGLAND.

Marseilles the 13 May, 1655.

A. D. 1655.

Vol. xxvi.

p. 167.

AT last mr. de Mercœur is gone from Toulon with 6 shippes, 6 gallies, and 2000 men for the relief of Rozes.

It is true, that general Blake hath burnt 9 Turkish vessells at Tunis, having beaten down the two forts, that were at the entry of the road, without being able to obtain the English slaves that are at the said Tunis; in consequence whereof he is gone to recruit himself at Argier.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

May 22, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxvi.

p. 119.

THERE being come advice from Rochell, that those of Biscay continue their piracies upon the ships of this state, they have resolved to complain of it, and to write to the admiralties to advise about it. And the provinces are required to declare themselves favourably, and without any delay, upon the twelve hundred thousand guilders for the 24 ships, which are desired.

There came yesterday more expresse advice concerning the defeat (some call it a massacre) of 4000 Vaudois. And they are very angry against the ambassador Boreel, for not mentioning one word of it; which doth renew and confirm the opinion, which his enemies have of him, that he is too passionate for France, and that he never writes any thing, which doth concern or trouble that crown.

There hath been a new instance made for the sending of forces upon the Yssel and the Rhine; but the councill of State (except the Lord Raesvelt and those of Holland) being the most part affected to the prince's party, do procrastinate their advice through cunning and craftiness; to cause to depart in the mean time the lords Ripperda and Hoolck (being to go to Groningen) and so to weaken that party, which doth favour Deventer; and after this manner they do dispose and dispute of employing the militia, not according to the exigency, but according to the affection, faction, and interests of the factious; for those of Deventer will and pretend to fortify themselves by this means; and the other party would sooner weaken them, saying, that there is no danger nor fear of the German levies and forces, and that that only serveth for a pretence.

The lord Nieuport hath writ a particular letter, wherein he giveth to understand, or rather doth judge the English do not proceed sincerely for a conclusion of the treaty with France; and it seemeth, that the taking of 20 Holland ships by Penn hath provokt him to anger, judging the English to be more inclin'd against France, than for that crown.

The Lord Huygens and other commissioners of states general, as also of the counsellors of the prince of Orange, have consulted with the ambassador of Spain for the payment of the arrear of the said prince. But that being a debt, which never cost the said prince any thing but only a liberality, the king of Spain would wrong his interests, if he were too hasty in making satisfaction; and Holland will be very glad, that the said prince be kept under and low.

This day it was resolved, not to spare the Lorrainers, but to treat and use them with hostility, when they offer any hostility; for the the king of Spain hath disowned them: they will also write to the states of Overysfel by duplicates (for there are two bodies of the states of Overysfel) to name somebody for the *chambre mipartie*.

The letter of the Rhinegrave, making complaint of the troops and extorsions of the Lorrainers, he doth also add some complaint against Stevensweert; and upon the first is vigorously resolved, sending the execution thereof to the councill of state. The second point will be only matter to speak of to the ambassador of Spain.

Prince William hath procured the prolonging of the assembly at Groningen 'till the 13 of June, unless that the difference be composed in the mean time. In what manner he left the difference is said in the inclosed letter, a little old, but not from the purpose.

The 31st is to be an assembly in Zealand, where the difference of Toolen will be discusst, and the lord Haersolte, with the secretary Bredael, is also going thither, on the behalf of the states of Overysfel.

The prince of Tarente hath signified to the states general by the president, that the prince's wife is brought to bed of a young prince. The states general did require the lord president and the lord de Gent to make him a compliment, to congratulate, and to offer him the office of the states general to be godfather at the christning.

The advice of the council of state having been, that at Deventer there ought to be three troops of horse, besides them, which are in Overysfel, the states general have confirmed the said advice; but those of Twent and Deventer have declared, that those troops of horse, which are in the country of Overysfel, are suspected by them, and that they cannot trust them, desiring the companies, which are without partiality and without faction. And in regard that would not be agreed unto, they have protested, that they shall be obliged to make a new levy, declaring that it is impossible for their citizens and countrymen to bear any longer this burthen.

Those of Holland have companies enough (and likewise of horse) upon their pay and repartition; and the said Twent and Deventer have solicited them sufficiently to promise, or let them have some of their repartition. But Holland doth so much fear the breaking of union, or order, which was made in the great assembly in the year 1651, that they durst not; yea they durst not so much as promise it; but however in the end they will be forced to do it, or otherwise no body in the other provinces will adhere unto them.

In the business of Brandenburg there hath been nothing further done. They have suspicion, that Sweden and Brandenburg do treat to equal their rights and impositions in Livonia and Prussia, charging the strangers with a third more than their subjects, which will be of very great prejudice to the commerce of this state.

May 26.

On the 9th of June there will be a day of fasting and prayer, to give God thanks for the peace and prosperity of the state, and to pray him for the continuance of the same.

Yesterday they resolved to write to all the members of Overysfel, to the end they might send commissioners to a certain place, and there to agree together, what troops are to be given for the securing of the city of Deventer; and if they cannot agree upon it, that then they are to write back to the states general.

In Zealand the two magistrates at Tolen do jar and divide the province into two: Middleburgh and Zirickzee are for the one party; and in case, that the others making the plurality will make and choose a stadtholder to fortify their party, then it will be the same comedy which is in Overysfel.

Men do expect at Goes the same play and game, as at Tolen; and this towards the 25th of June.

The lord ambassador Boreel having confirmed the massacre of the Vaudois, it hath highly offended this state. And the protector hath also spoken to the lord ambassador Nieuport about it, although that his publick letters do not make any mention of it. And some here for pure zeal to the religion, and others to shew themselves zealous, do declare great displeasure thereat; and France might chance to lose their credit for it. There were some that did propose to have the ambassador of France spoken to about it; but they left the business to the ambassador Boreel to manage. They did also conclude, that the lord Nieuport hath done very well for having had nothing to do, or taking any notice of the envoy of Portugal.

Upon the alliance with Brandenburg there hath been a conference held, but only to consider the *retroacta*, and the fervor on either side is not very great.

Also the states of the country of Cleve do represent in particular, and require, that for this treaty the cities of the country of Cleve may not be evacuated, being provided at present with garrisons of this state; and also to be secured in the privileges.

The resident of Denmark saith, that by virtue of the treaty of alliance, when this state will send some men of war towards the Sound, they are to declare it three weeks before; and in regard it is much said now, that it is intended to send a great fleet to the Sound, that they would impart it unto him; upon which nothing is yet resolved.

Baron Gustavus Spar of Sweden is already arrived at Amsterdam, going to the queen Christina; and from thence he is to return here, to make a compliment to the states general without any more.

In what manner the project of conclusion is in Holland, is to be seen in this extract concerning Overysfel, wherein Amsterdam especially was difficult. But at last however Holland must come to it; otherwise they will abandon their own interest. And in the mean time they do embark here by little and little into a civil faction, which after a smoke will at last break out into a flame.

At Gorcum there hath been likewise a predominant party. Those, that are domineered over, had recourse to the provincial court, who sent the lords Dorp and Goes, who found little obedience; on the contrary, when they would have departed, they found themselves arrested.

May

May 28.

A. D. 1655.

From the protestant cantons of the Switzers are come letters, with a copy of that, which the poor banished Vaudois, that escaped the massacre, have writ to the said Switzers. They do make a sharp complaint of the said massacre; do invite this state to help and assist those poor banished men with a subsidy. Whereupon they have resolved to write to the duke of Savoy, notwithstanding that there were six regiments of French.

There was this morning a conference with the lord Wyman, counsellor of the elector of Brandenburg, concerning the alliance to be made between this state and Brandenburg; whereof I know not yet any thing, only that he will make report thereof. I remain

Your most humble servant.

A letter of the honorable burgomasters and rulers of the city of Amsterdam, to the delegated counsellors.

NOBLE AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 185.

MY lords, by the deputies of this city, that have been at the assembly, we are informed at large, of what has been transacted in their noble and great mightinesses assembly, concerning the armament at sea for the security of the same; as also the funds to be found for that purpose; and that at last the advices of the members did generally conclude, that instead of the directions money of one and two per cent. upon goods, as also of the last money, a tax should be consented to, of one third part of convoy money, agreed to in the year 1651, and that this affair was brought so far, that it was resolved upon in the said assembly: but whereas the said deputies had no instructions for that purpose, they took upon themselves to bring over a report thereof to their principals, to have their resolution hereupon entered in writing. On the same day was also delivered to us an extract out of the resolutions of their noble and great mightinesses thereunto belonging. For which purpose we caused the common council of this city to meet. When, considering the necessity there is that the sea be secured, not only for the sake of the commerce, but also for the good and reputation of our country in the present conjunctures, when almost all the power of Christendom fit out great naval armaments, so that the said sea ought not to be abandoned by this state; it being besides this considered, that some extraordinary funds ought to be found, whereby at least part of the said armament might be made good; it was thought necessary, and resolved by the common council, to give also their consent for the raising of the said tax, so as the said consent is hereby presented to their noble mightinesses. Provided however, that the present tax of one and two per cent. as also the last money, shall cease on the first of June next ensuing, and that by their noble mightinesses the matter be thus directed, that by a resolution of their high mightinesses, the tax of the said one third part, by heightening the ordinary convoy money as above-mentioned, be introduced and take place on the same day.

The necessity we think there is, that the said tax cannot any longer be permitted, has been debated and demonstrated by the deputies of this city in such a manner, and proved with reasons, which could not be answered, viz. that the same caused here not only a general prejudice to trade, whereby the navigation, trade, and commerce, and also the revenue of the admiralty here in this city was hurt, but if continued would entirely be ruined. Add to this the neglect of other members, especially in the northern quarter, who did moderate, dispense, nay, even entirely remit the said tax according to their pleasure, when here in this city with sincerity and zeal more was done than could be borne; so that if the same had been thus executed every where, the said debts, as we firmly believe, would have been paid even before the limited time, at least in Holland. For as to Zealand, we can assert nothing as a certainty, for we have no knowledge of the said tax there, than barely what they say themselves; but as we are on the other hand well informed the said tax is not practised there, neither is the edict of their high mightinesses issued in the year 1653, concerning a general declaration of the goods, even so much as begun to be put in practice, without which it is not possible to prevent frauds. Neither has there been to this very day, of the produce thereof, any account delivered in the general chamber of accounts, although the same ought to have been done from six to six months, the more since they intend to receive the money for the payment of their debts from the direction in Holland. And although no body could oblige us by any reason in the world to the continuation of charging our citizens and inhabitants under such an unequal tax; yet out of a zeal and affection for the publick good, we have thus continued the same, that we have received so much, wherewithall not only the debts made and contracted here by the direction

direction of this city can be paid off, but are likewise able to pay off the greatest part of A. D. 1655. the incumbrances and debts contracted by the direction of the northern quarter, where- with we have acquainted the magistrates of the respective towns by our letters to them; in order to pay the same next week into the hands of their directors. At the same time we recommend most earnestly to their noble mightinesses, that in case any repartition of the said armament should be proposed, that none may be rated higher than what probably can be well paid out of their revenue. For we must tell you as a preadmonition, that for the future it is no ways our intention, to levy this tax close and sincerely here, and to suffer that others dispense therein, or that the money raised thereby, by the direction of this city, shall be employed for the payment of what others fall short. We must needs own, that we can hardly be brought to the belief, that other members will proceed herein with the like sincerity, by reason of the ill practices we daily observe, that are used in other places. Those of Enckhuysen have suffered the lean cattle to pass by without paying any thing to the direction. At Medenblick arrived last week a rich ship from the Streights, consigned to one John Marees a merchant of that city, which was there unloaded, and the merchandizes imported here under inland passes, without having made any entry thereof, as it ought to have been done according to their high mightinesses edict, touching a general declaration as above-mentioned, at the board of admiralty of the northern quarter; neither has any thing been paid there to the directory on that account, whereof the college of admiralty has also made its complaints by their deputies. Your noble mightinesses may easily see by these few instances, how little an equality of practice is to be depended upon, especially if it be considered what little respect is paid by some members, to the authority of their noble and great mightinesses, in keeping the defaulters up to their duty.

Nevertheless, considering the said tax is agreed to here, we are resolved to execute the same sincerely among us; and are further of opinion, that we shall be able thereby to fit out and maintain eight men of war at sea, without being any ways troublesome to their noble and great mightinesses, or any body else on account of the charges thereof. Provided that their high mightinesses think proper to authorize the college of admiralty at Amsterdam, to furnish the directions here, by way of lending, with four hulks of ships and guns thereunto belonging.

May 28, [1655. N. S.]

A letter of Nieuport, the Dutch ambassador in England, to N. Ruysch.

MY LORD,

THE lord protector has received, since my last, yet further information touching the Vol. xxvi. cruel proceedings against the poor reformed inhabitants of Angrogne and other p. 188. Vallies of Piedmont, and has requested the lord de Bordeaux Neufville, in the last conference, by his commissaries, that he would be pleased to do his utmost endeavours, that by the interposition of the king and court of France the said inhabitants might be restored to, and maintained in the privileges, which they have so long enjoyed in those Vallies, which he has promised to recommend in the strongest manner. This day I am told by a good hand, that the articles, which are adjusted, are copied fair, in order to be sign'd forthwith by both parties; and that his highness the lord protector is resolved to contribute what he can in behalf of the said oppressed protestant inhabitants of the Vallies of Piedmont, not doubting but their high mightinesses will take this affair likewise to heart. I have here before written concerning the same, but never received any answer upon it for my information. Their high mightinesses formerly did not think it improper, to cause letters to be answered from time to time; and I think, with submission, that there is now as much reason for, as ever was. Mr. Thurloe told me to day, that the declaratory act concerning the decision of the East India differences was sent this day to the lords commissioners of the great seal, and that some few words, which we had drawn up, touching the acquittance passed by the private interessed in the affair of Amboyna, were inserted therein. His honour assured me likewise, that within a few days, all my complaints relating to sundry private ships should be considered; and that also sundry articles concerning a regulation of trade and navigation, should be delivered to me in writing. However, by daily domestic accidents, these gentlemen are often diverted from their intentions.

Wherewith, &c.

Westminster, May 28,
1655. [N. S.]

My lord, &c.

(Sign'd)

W. NIEUPORT.

A letter

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning.

[Cologne] Ant. May 28, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvi.
P. 192.

I HEARE fend you your proctor's relation of your busines; and having lately wrott to you have noe other thing to trouble you with, then to desire you would be mindefull of sending the bill I desired in my last, with what speed may be; as also weekly the diurnalls and your commands, I much wonder that I have missed hearing from you these two posts, for yours of the 27th Aprill is the last I had. These parts of the world are now in great expectations. The Swede being designed upon Dantzwick, doth not a little alarum the empire; as also a pannicke feare is the Hollanders possessed with much stirring in Germany; and strong factions there are, that oppose the archduke's election to be king of the Romans. The French are not idle in their endeavours to weaken that house. Some thinke they will pitch on the duke of Bavaria, being now allied to the French; others on Newburghe, who is a most moderate prince. In fine, unlesse there be some expedient found by this new pope, much ruine may happen. The treaty in England with France is gazed after by merchants; but we here hope the marquess de Leda may cross itt, and give you better termes. Sir, I am

Your humble servant,

ZACHARY JOHNSON.

The superscription,

For mr. Anthony Miller, merchant in
London.

Chanut, *the French ambassador in Holland, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.*

Hague, May 28, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxvi.
P. 194.

HAVING received your letter of the 21st of this month, wherein I am fully informed of the state of your negotiation, I am much afraid, that this will not find you at London. All men here believe, that the lord protector ought not to let slip this opportunity of concluding with France; but it pleaseth God sometime to eclipse the thoughts of the wisest, and the embassy of the marquiss of Lede is not to make any ordinary propositions. The confidence, which the Spaniards have, that they will be hearkened unto, persuades us at least, that they are not without some great advantages for the protector; and from thence we are to hold our accommodation as doubtful.

I see here some wise men, who do not believe, that we ought much to apprehend the being deprived of the amity of the lord protector; and yet I believe, that whereas the king hath not omitted any thing through your ministry for the obtaining of a good agreement, we ought to desire it, as long as there is any likelihood of obtaining it of divine providence. If that doth dispose of it otherwise, we are to accommodate our counsels to his will. In truth I am glad to see, that by the next post we shall know absolutely, what the issue will be of your business; and I pray God we may have cause to rejoice in a good conclusion.

At last my lord Beverning, who is now settled in this court, came to see me yesterday. The visit was long and very familiar. He hath a great respect for you, and that without any dissimulation. We had a large discourse of affairs that are past. He is not well satisfied with monsieur de Baas: he askt me, when I heard from him, and what was become of him. I told him I had received but two letters from him since his return into France, and could give no accompt of him. The said lord Beverning doth conceive, that you will not conclude any thing till you fall down the Thames as low as Gravesend. He speaks very well of the lord protector, but as a man free. I am glad we have renewed our acquaintance. I shall take care to preserve it.

The business of the Swedes doth still trouble this state; for if they suffer the power of the Swedes to encrease upon the Baltick sea, it will very much diminish and decrease the commerce there; and besides it is no small enterprise to put themselves in danger of breaking with Sweden, by relieving and assisting Dantzick or the Pillauw.

You have heard, my lord, that the king hath concluded at Paris a treaty with the commissioners of the Hans towns, wherein they are very favourably dealt withal.

The province of Holland being adjourned for some short time, is now met together A. D. 1655: again, to provide money for the setting forth of a fleet of twenty six men of war, to be employed in the Mediterranean, in the Streights, and in the Narrow.

A letter of intelligence.

SIR,

I HAVE none of yours to answer, nor doth here occur any thing worth your notice, Vol. xxvi. As I wrote you, the duke of Gloster is gone to his brother at Ceullen, attended with several English and Scotch gentlemen: chancellor Hide followed this week with his family, and some other English gentlemen. They begin to assemble themselves; and most talk of settling themselves at Ceullen, where 'tis generally thought C. S. will remain, until he have another promising designe to invite him for England, except you and France disagree. These states are in the highest perplexity concerning the great arming of the Swedes; who, as 'tis generally reported, intend to besiege Danick, and which will be prejudicial to these in case they take it. Consultations have bin concerning a means how to prevent it; and 'tis now sayd, they are resolved to send de Ruyter with 24 ships into the Sound, to assist the Dean in keeping the Sound open, in case the Swede made any attempt on the same. But this is not believed by the prudent politicians, because it may prove of worse consequence to these to offend the Swede, than assist the Dean. They are fitting 24 of their best ships, whither they are designed, I hope to advertise you by the next. No more now offers, then to subscribe myselfe

1st May, 1655.

Your humble servant,

JOHN ADDAMS.

The superscription,

*A monsieur monsieur Pieter Hacker,
a Londres.*

A letter of intelligence.

Paffau, May 28, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

I Came from Vienna hither last week, which is the reason I received none of yours this Vol. xxvii.] fortnight past. Now we shall return shortly to Vienna, I hope our correspondence p. 389. will hold the better.

Here is no great talk at present of England or of their affairs; we have enough of our own; and our news are, that to morrow will be the election of the king of Hungary. In the mean time they prepare all necessaries for the coronation of the Empress, which will be the 6th of next month, and the coronation of the emperor will be three days after; and immediately after the emperor resolves to return to Vienna; but before his majesty departs, the states design, that the forces of the kingdom should be sent to garrison in the forts and towns upon the frontiers, pretending the said forts cannot be trusted to strangers; and it is thought it will be considered in general terms.

Some spies are taken here from the Turks, that were to fire this place, and will suffer for it. The Swedish forces do march still, without undertaking any thing. It is believed they will attempt Prussia; and that makes Poland inclined to give honourable contentment.

The Muscovites and Cossacks are there to make a league with several princes against the Swedes, Cossacks; Dantzick is in great fear, and daily fortified. Another way the king of Poland has, for he sent an ambassador to the king of Swedeland, with power to agree upon the articles indifferent in the assembly at Lubeck, which were all the advantage of the Swedes: the king of France is to be mediator in this business.

Others constantly say and think, that the war against Poland is but a pretext; and that the Swedes design is to fall upon the emperor, where the catholics are. Others say the Swedes will take Holland; nay others some against England; so that we must have patience, for time will clear all shortly, and I am dearly

Sir, yours.

Viole,

Viole, *president of Brussels, to Barriere.*

Brussels, May 29, 1655. [N. S.]

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvi.
p. 212.

THE prince of Conde is now with his army and their rendezvous near Rocroy, which is in a condition to defend itself, there being 2000 men in it, and a good number of officers.

The return of the marechal of Turenne to Compienne, after he himself had conducted a convoy into Quesnoy, hath retarded the departure of the earl of Fuensaldagna and the archduke; but it will be but for a little time; so that I shall remain here all alone, by order of his highness. Therefore pray send all your letters to me, with an exact account of your affairs, that so I may write the news into Spain. You shall be sure to hear from me weekly, and of all that passeth.

The examination of James Patrickson, taken before me this 18th day of May, 1655.

Vol. xxvi.
p. 201.

SAITH, that he came out of the county of Corke in the province of Munster in Ireland, and landed at King's Road, near Bristol, in February last, but cannot tell at what time in the said month of February. And being further examined faith, he did not land in February last, as above expressed, but did land at King's Road in April last; saying, that when he said he landed in February last, it was his mistake. And further faith, that the first night after his landing, as above, he lay at Bristol, and the second night, at Badmanton, about ten miles from Bristol aforesaid. And being desired to declare, whether his lodging was above stairs, or below stairs, at Badmanton aforesaid, faith he will not answer; but afterwards faith, it was above stairs that he lodged at Badmanton aforesaid, as far as he remembereth. And further faith, that he doth not know, what day of the said month of April he landed as aforesaid, nor doth he know what week of the said month he landed as above. And further faith, that he was a foldier in the king's party in Ireland, in the condition of a lieutenant colonel, under the command of the lord Musgreay, about two years since; and that he was a foldier in the said late king's party in England, in the capacity of a major, in the regiment of fir James Smith of Devonshire, until the said late king's army laid down their arms in Cornwall. And further faith, he was not in the late insurrection in this nation, which was in opposition to the present government thereof. And further faith, that his business is from hence to Durham, to visit a friend, who liveth near Durham; but what place he knoweth not, whose name, as he thinketh, is John Smith, a country gentleman, living about two miles from Durham. And further faith, that the person now apprehended with him this examine is a poor gentleman, and servant to him this examine, whose name is Arthur Berry, he being an Irishman. And further this examine faith, that his pass, bearing date the twenty seventh day of April, 1655, was subscribed by the governor of Cork in Ireland, the same day and year. And further faith, that he hath been in England about a month. And further faith, that he was born in Cumberland at Rottington, near Whitehaven. And further faith, that he is a roman catholick, but is not a romish priest; and that he will not take the oath of abjuration. And further faith, that he hath been in England longer than is above set forth. And being desired to subscribe this his examination, faith he will not.

Examined before me

THOMAS APLETREE.

The examination of Arthur Berry, taken May 18, 1655.

Vol. xxvi.
p. 203.

SAITH that he is an Irishman, and that he landed at Bristol, and came out of Ireland with one mr. James Patrickson; but faith he is not a servant to the said mr. James Patrickson, but came out of Ireland as his fellow traveller; and that he this examine together with the said mr. Patrickson came out of Ireland about the latter end of last week. And being further examined faith, that the said mr. Patrickson hath been in England ever since May 1654, and this examine hath been with him in England ever since the beginning of December last. And further faith, that the paper in the manner of a pass bearing date the 27th of April 1655 now shewn to him, pretended to be under the hand of the governor of Cork in Ireland, was wrote by the said mr. Patrickson near Maidenhead,

Maidenhead, in or near Oxfordshire, about ten days since. And further faith, that he this examine and the said mr. Patrickson are Roman catholicks. And he this examine further faith, that he will not take the oath of abjuration. And further faith, that he this examine is not a Romish priest, and that he hath not taken or entered into any orders from or by the authority of the see of Rome. And further faith, that he doth not know whither he is to go or travell. A. D. 1655.

Examined before
THO. APLETREE.

Arthur Berry being re-examined, May 19, 1655.

SAITH, that he left Ireland August last was two years, and that he then went into Spain, and stayed there about ten weeks, and from thence went to Bourdeaux in France, and there stayed for the space of a year and upwards; and from thence he went into Holland, and stayed there about three weeks; and from thence into Flanders, where he stayed one night and one day, and returned into Holland, and took shipping at Flushing for Gravefend about the beginning of August last; since which time he was in England, as in his former examination is set forth. And further faith, that he is an Irishman born, and that he had the command of a troop of horse in the regiment of the lord Musgrove in the late wars in Ireland about July next will be three years, near which time he this examine, with the rest then in arms, laid down their arms.

Examined before
THO. APLETREE.

Mr. J. Carye and mr. J. Barker to major general Disbrowe.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

TO be certified, that upon notice given us, that mr. Hunt, condemned for treason, Vol. xxvi. was escaped out of the prison at Ivelchester, wednesday night, the 15th instant, we p. 204. mett there this day early to examine the businesse. We finde, that Hunt had two sisters, Elizabeth and Margery, that evening in his chamber: he goes with Elizabeth in womens apparell out of the prison, through the watch; the other sister, Margery, lieth in Hunt's bedd that night; and the escape of the prisoner not knowne, till the next morninge, beinge thurday, which day it seemeth he had been to be executed; the scaffold being up, and all ready for that purpose. It appears to us that Hunt had noe irons on, through the goaler's neglect. It also appears to us by severall testimonies, that the sheriffe had often tymes earnestly sent unto him to secure the prisoners with all safety; and, upon the imprisonment of the persons committed for treason, had issued under his seale of office a warrante for a strickt watch upon the prison, day and night. The copies of the examinations taken at present we thought good to send up unto your honour; and we shall wayte your commaunds, and what you shall please further to have done in the businesse. In the meane tyme Hunt's two sisters, Elizabeth and Margery, are secured; and we shall humbly desire to know your further pleasure concerninge them and the goaler; and foe we humbly take our leaves, and rest

Your honour's most humble

Ivelchester, Friday, May 18, 1655.

and faithfull servants,

J. CARYE.
J. BARKER.

Huy and Crye were speedily abroad for the stopinge of the prisoner.

The superscription,

To the right honourable generall John Disbrowe,
at his lodgings in Whitehall, these humbly
present.

OLIVER P.

THESE are to will and require you forthwith to deliver unto mr. Martyr Noel, so Vol. xxvi. be transported to our island of Barbados in America, the bodies of Somerfet Fox, p. 206. Francis Fox, Thomas Saunders, Anthony Jackson, Rowland Thomas, colonel Grey, Vol. III. 5 Z colonel

A. D. 1655. colonel Gardiner, and James Hodges, now prisoners under your charge in our Tower of London, and who were committed thither, viz. the said Somerset Fox, Francis Fox, Thomas Sanders, Rowland Thomas, colonel Grey, and colonel Gardiner, for high treason, the said Anthony Jackson for treason in invading the nation, and the said James Hodges for high misdemeanors against us and the state. And for so doing this shall be your warrant. Given at Whitehall the 18th day of May 1655.

To our trusty and well beloved John Barkstead, esq;
lieutenant of our Tower of London.

A letter of intelligence.

Stockholm, May 19, 1655. [S. V.]

Vol. xxvi.
p. 207.

NEWS little at present. The queen dowager's funerals were on funday last most sumptuously solemnized, and now nothing thought on, but what may conduce to the sudden march of king and army hence, the regiments coming daily up to be embarked, as well here as in other sea-havens. The Tartarian ambassadors had audience on wednesday last; their proposition yet is secret. Our grand ambassador Bond is in a manner resolved to take shipping here in a good Swedish merchant ship bound hence for London within these ten days.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, May 29, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxvi.
p. 213.

THE king of France is at Compiègne, where this week was married one of the cardinal's nieces to the duke of Modena; the nuptial ceremonies, I mean, were there performed. Marshal Turenne did put in provision and other necessaries into Quefnoy the last week. Prince Rupert is thought to be on his march towards his command in Italy with the duke of Modena. Here is not any discourse of the duke of York's going to the campaign this year; it depends upon our agreement there; as also the removal of the English court from hence.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Petit.

Paris, $\frac{22}{17}$ May 1655.

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

WE have but little news by this ordinary. The court is at Compiègne, where I hear that the betrothings of cardinal Mazarin's niece with the duke of Modena's eldest son being accomplished, the count de Noailles hath taken the conduct of her to her husband, with a promise of above two millions his eminency giveth her for a dowry; after which the said earl will pass to Rome, to render unto the new pope in his majesty's behalf the usual obediences. Our forces march continually towards the rendezvous, and we hear from Peronne, that the enemies are reinforcing their garrisons.

There is still some discontentment among the merchants here, caused by the prejudicial introduction of the copper coining. They were to renew their complaints thereof unto his majesty, before his departure, who gave them many good words; but they were no sooner out of his presence, but many courtiers blamed them for disturbing the king's pleasure about that, which he understood not, telling them, that they should have made their addresses unto his said majesty's minister.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, May 29, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 214.

YOURS of the 24th instant I received, by which I see the protector is merciful to the late risers, contrary to the expectation of most here; but now they find it otherwise, and some highly commend him for it; but the proclamation and oath of abjuration is a general

general exclamation here by the Hugonots themselves in many parts, I mean of the learned men. A. D. 1655.

Of a general peace we have nothing. Of any fleet to prejudice you at sea there is nothing, nor will be this season.

Some here fear yet their treaty with the protector shall not take effect. The being there of marquis de Leda amuseth this whole court; yet I know mr. Bordeaux, if he sees the Spaniard near a close with the protector, has orders to conclude his treaty; so that we are still in hopes our treaty with England may be ended, which is all I hear of it at present.

The duke of York is always here, and is not yet disposed to go into any campaign in France, till we hear what the end shall be of our treaty with his highness, lest it might happen to be against some of the articles, if he had served here.

They do boast much here of great matters they will do this summer against the Spaniard. Your curiosity to know the stature of the king of France at present, I assure you, he is pretty well taller than yourself, and a stout gallant prince. Great expectations may be of him, if he be not given too much to his pleasure, which Mazarin keeps him to close.

Here is nothing else, but what you have in the occurrents, from

Sir, yours.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, May 29, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

HERE we have but little of news since my former. The levies made by mr. de la Barde in Swisserland for France are come into the country, and arrived at St. Jean de Laune the 16th of this present month, where mr. Tireman commissioner from the king received them, being in number 2500 Swissers, which shall have their rendezvous about the end of this month at Amiens. Vol. xxvi. P. 216.

Prince Thomas is to meet Modena at Saccon in the territories of Genoa, to confer together, whether they will think themselves able this year to attempt the city of Milan.

The duke of Mantua is expected here only about the next St. Jean. Some think certainly he has a secret treaty to be made with the king, as to join with the duke of Modena, and does as he does in all interests; and that it was for that, count de Monaster made a voyage hither, and mr. Dantilli made two voyages from Turin to Casal by the king's orders.

It was remarked here last week, that no holy orders were given in the archbishoprick of Paris, which never happened so before about such times.

Monsieur de Here, master of the requests, has a commission to go to Nantz, and make the process of those that are yet prisoners, for cardinal de Retz his escape out of the castle of Nantz. What shall become of them, we shall hear in due time.

Mr. count de Noailles, captain of the king's guard, and his wife, are chosen to convoy mademoiselle Martinozzi to Modena, whose contract and agreement was made at Compiagne last thursday, and the marriage will be to morrow in the same place. Some say, that the bishop of Constance goes with them also.

It is not yet believed, that his majesty will part from Compiagne so soon to advance his troops to any action, they being not yet together; and those that came to the appointed place were sent with a convoy into Quesnoy, which prevailed without any assistance of the enemies. Ours left in Quesnoy this last time 900 bolls of wheat, 60 pieces of wine, with quantity of other provision; and as soon as our army will come together, they will furnish Quesnoy with all things necessary, that they will little care for their adversaries. Some letters from the frontiers of Picardy bring, that the Spaniards made great offers of late to mr. de Montejou governor of Arras, for the delivery of that town to themselves, they hearing the governor to be displeased with the court; but we have from good hands, that he would not hear nor answer them; and therefore it is supposed, he shall have what he demands from the court. We hear from Provence, that mr. de Vendosme was expected at Aix last saturday, and mr. de Mercoeur parted from Toulon with five ships of war commanded by mr. Gabaret, an old sea captain, and a man of great experience; also six gallies commanded by mr. chevalier de la Ferrier, all gone towards Roses.

Yesterday morning the parliament assembled, and resolved to send some of the king's men, which reside always in the parliament, to court, with a *tres humble remonstrance*, desiring his majesty not to put his edicts to execution, till they shall have time to consider of them. We expect the king's answer to them. Some of our troops that went to convey

A. D. 1655. convey the convoy into Quesnoy, took 50 carts of the enemies full of provision coming from Valenciennes to Landrecy; as also to give relief in their way to 50 men of the enemies, that are in a fort called la Fore's near Cambrecy.

Mr. Turenne will arrive at Compeigne this night, and next week will go to la Ferre, where the artillery is a making ready to march to the field. Here is some prophecy, that we shall have three popes this year; and that this pope we have now will die before the 26th of the next month; and that his successor will govern only three months. We shall see all by the time.

We are in hopes this next campaign to master our enemies, except Swedeland comes to them. We expected many of the late risers there to suffer; but it seems his highness is more merciful than people think; yet the catholicks say, they cannot say so much at these times, but rather the contrary. Which is all I have at present, but that I am,

Sir, your humble servant.

A letter of intelligence.

Brussels, May 29, 1655. [N.S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 220.

BY the last I received yours, by which I see the noble reception of marquis de Leda, a good beginning; if he can finish so his negotiation, it will be very acceptable here, as there is reason for it.

You write no news from England, but the execution of some of the late risers, and the protector's mercy to most of them; but we have among the cavaliers other news, that most of all the country in England refuse to pay taxes by any authority from the protector or his council: but because you write nothing of it, I give no credit to it. Of a general peace here is not a word, but the common bruit, that the new pope will suddenly procure one.

They fear much here France and you will agree, and Spain must fall into war with you. I am of opinion, the marquis of Leda will not stay long with you, if he proceeds not in his negotiation to contentment. I have some reasons to be of this opinion more than ordinary.

The archduke is still here; so is the queen of Swedeland, and duke Francis of Lorraine. The prince of Condé parted wednesday last to his army at Philipville near Rocroy, and all our army is marched to the confines. Yet I cannot see how they can do more than to defend what they have, for no appearance of any Swedes to come, as was strongly reported *in ore omnium*, but I could not from the beginning (as I writ) find any ground for it. The Swedes have something else in hand. It is said, count Fuenfeldagna will shortly be commanded from hence to the good liking of all these countries.

There was last week like to be murdered here count de Menghem, by a shot of a pistolet, passing the streets in his coach. He is brother to count Basigny; and he that shot him was apprehended soon after, being a Frenchman, come expressly from Paris with intent to kill the said count; but he missed, and therefore may pay for his attempt.

The Spanish troops march all to St. Amant, whither the archduke will shortly go with all the court.

The Condeans and Lorainers with Wittenberg troops march towards Luxemburg, to post themselves in convenient places for observation of the French army's motions.

The count Fuenfeldagna goes towards Brouas upon the river of Lys to observe there.

The last letters from Madrid bring no news of the Spanish fleet's arrival; so that report is vanished.

The same letters import the full agreement concluded betwixt his catholick majesty and the ambassador of Genoa. Also that the several kingdoms of Spain have partly and are to acknowledge the infant of Spain as inheretrix of this king's dominions.

It seems there are no hopes left of any issue to be had by this king and queen. She twice miscarried, and the doctors resolved, she will conceive no more.

Your letters from Vienna now you have; but by this post I received nothing from Cologne, to my admiration. The next will shew the cause: which is all I have to say at present.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning.

From Cleve, May 30, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

IN my last I gave you, that Oneile was escaped, and at the Hague; and a hint, that A. D. 1655. more care bee had. Now I can tell you, that I am commanded by the king to meet the duke of Gloucester, Hyde, Napeir, &c. who came from the Hague, and will be at Arnhem wednesday next, and soe to Colen. The princeesse royall will meet them ere long at Mewers. This remoove is, being the states had in debate the ordering it, to please you, and to prevent a publick affront, it is thought fitt, hee should doe it himselfe. You must think on some way to hinder the concourse of your enemies in Holland, &c. For all things are there prepared on all occasions to doe you mischeife. Agents are in all towns, viz. in the Hague, sir Francis Mackworth, sir E. Bret; and many at Couhis, especially that little spider, doctor Morley; at Delf, alderman Bunce, and mr. Woode; Rotterdam, Diggs; Brabant; Amsterdam, Westerclayre, Wayte, &c. Utrecht, doctor Crayton, captain Pinkney; Breda, Titus, Coventry, Paratell, &c. Flushing, Rainmote, Mid. Ja. Bovey, sir W. Coyneson, a Zelander, one of Ch. Stew. baronetts, and many English officers of this land. Some there are, who are most common in the provinces up and down, employed in getting shipping, transporting persons, procuring armes and money, and drawing in confederates in those parts. And if the designe had gon on, or yet should, of English, French, and Scotts there were and are 4000 men ready, *non obstante* the states; and in Flanders and in France as many Irish, the lord Taaffe, the lord Gerard, sir J. Mince, whose brother Andrew was engaged in the late design. Collonell Hollis, collonell Prifemack, Thomas Fitz-Gerald, and mr. Heath, being a kind of secretary to the archbishop duke, named Dognate, are active. Zealand is much a freind to Charles Stew. for shipping.

I have told you the publick taking notice of Wilmot, sir William Flemming, sir William Keith, sir J. Mince, sir Ma. Langdale, sir J. Wagstaffe, sir R. Page, sir C. Lloyde, captain God. Lloyde, Coll. Darcy, Coventry, Philips, J. Seymore, Trelawney, mr. O Neile, Manyng, Scott, Heath, Davison, Rofs, Palmer, &c. as mr. Halfie, Horwood, Gardiner, &c. in the Diurnal, or in some particular order against them, and those who doe, or have, or shall harbour, abett, or conceale them. In time it may bee many 1000 l. advantage. The lord Culpeper, the archbishop of London-Derry, sir Ed. Walker, mr. Honeywood, hot-headed people, are in Holland.

Hyde is sick at the Hague. The king will bee this night with the duke of Newburg for a weeke.

I admire you secure not C. R. Arundel, sir H. Polard, &c. they being much engaged, having sent Seymore and Trelawney to Ch. Stew. as he came last from Collen, with large promises of all the engagers, as also sir R. Willis, &c. *non obstante* their bayle. Those, which I have named, were all engaged.

Bordeaux to his son, the French ambassador in England.

Compiègne, May 30, 1655. [N. S.]

MY SON,

I Came to this city on the 29th, with your letter of the 24th, which giveth no assurance. Vol. xxvi. I shewed it to the earl of Brienne, who found your terms and your negotiations very p. 231. much embroil'd, and told me, he would see his eminence, to signify unto him the present state, and that he thought my reception would be none of the best, and that I should find his disposition of mind very much altered upon these delays. Now this morning I saw his eminence, who did not fail to declare his anger, and to bespatter your conduct; and he told me, that he had writ often enough unto you, having advice from some particular persons, that they did but deceive you where you are, and that they made no esteem of you nor your conduct: and as I was going to reply unto him, he told me, that the mareschal of Villeroy was gone into his chamber, where he staid to speak with him. He bid me to come to him again to morrow morning; and just as he was going from me, one came and told him, that there was a great Swiffer, who desired to speak with his eminence, and to make propositions unto him about the means to make and finish the peace with England. Whereupon he caused him presently to be sent for; and whilst his eminence was withdrawn to speak with the said Mareschall, I took my time to inform myself of his propositions. I told him, that I was the father of the ambassador, and that I had order from his eminence; whereupon he shewed unto me all his letters in character, and the overtures, which

VOL. III.

6 A

he

A. D. 1655. he pretended to make to his eminence ; and withall he told me, how you had employed the Holland embassador to renew your treaty ; and that the resolution of the protector was to assist the Hugonots in Savoy, who are driven out of that country by the duke ; and that he would send an expresse to demand their re-establishment, and have a general collection made for them in all the three kingdoms of England, Scotland, and Ireland ; and likewise that he would give lands in Ireland to those that are banished, to inhabit. His eminence coming in interrupted our discourse : he took him with him, and was at least an hour in private with him ; and in regard I was desirous to know the end of the conference, I spoke to the Swiss as he came out of the chamber, and he told me, that his eminence had charged him to treat with monsieur Ondedei, whereby you may judge, that it is not with you that he would have him to treat ; and that in this mistrust of your conduct he doth seek all other overtures. I believe that they are ridiculous propositions, and on design to get money out of the cardinal ; and yet in regard this Swiss is one of the commissioners of the cantons, they may chance to hearken to his advice. I will inform myself during five or six days, which the court is to stay here, what there shall pass between him and monsieur Ondedei. I recommend secrecy unto you.

I have seen since the earl of Brienne, to whom I gave an account of the above-mentioned ; and he doth laugh at all the ridiculous propositions ; and whereas I pressed him to send you a precise order for your return or abode, he referred me to the foregoing letters, which had been sent you.

Rozé told me, that it doth pass for ridiculous not to see any conclusion ; and that it is clearly seen, that you would have the honour of concluding the treaty of peace, and that you ruin all upon this useless hope : wherefore make an end and return.

Mr. S. Morland to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

Vol. xxvii.
P. 157.

YESTERDAY about three of the clock in the afternoon, wee blessed God, both wee and the French ambassador's gentleman came safe into Dover, where the officers of the town did, with one consent, assure us, that in all probability, if wee made use of a state's vessel, as the wind now stands, and all other circumstances considered, wee could not expect to be in Calais under 2 or 3 daies : whereupon being exceedingly sensible, that wee have already incurred your honour's displeasure, and no less tender of doing the same for the future, wee were forced to hire and give 11 l. 5s. for a vessel out of Dover, to transport us, where wee are all now safe aboard, blessed be God, and under saile ; and if no extraordinary providence intervene, wee shall be landed at Calais within 3 or 4 hours time. This way, though much the dearer way, yet being so expeditious, and altogether as safe, as wee are informed by these people, wee trust your honour will approve of it ; and also be assured, that from henceforth, even to the very utmost of my endeavours, and best understanding, I shall in all things strive to execute your honour's commands, and so approve myself,

Right honourable,

From aboard the vessel, munday
2 of the clock in the morning.

your most humble, faithfull,

and affectionate servant,

SAM MORLAND.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning.

May 31, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxvi.
P. 238.

NOW at Cologne the king, the duke of Gloucester, Ormond, Hyde, the lords Gerard, Napier, sir Edward Nicholas, and his two sons ; sir William Flemming, sir George Hamilton, sir Gilbert Talbot, sir John Morley, mr. O Neal, mr. Elliot, Harding ; colonels Stephens, Manning, and Warren ; majors Cooper and Armorer, not he who went into England, Edwarth, two of the Hamiltons, Ogleby, and Baal Scot, doctor Frazier, Rogers an equerry, one of those that killed mr. Ascham, George Hamilton, and George Aernet, pages.

George Barker, Thomas Chiffings, Toby Rustat, Fox, John Griffith, John Swan, who was with the king in Worcester when he escaped.

One

One mr. Lader of the council, mr. Beeling secretary to the German embassy for money. A. D. 1655.
 All sorts of ordinary servants.
 A trumpet.

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning.

[June 1, 1655. N. S.]

I NEED not tell you, by whom prince Rupert was turned from court ; yet perhaps you have not known, that Hyde then offered Charles Stuart 50,000 men should be in arms in England before a year went about, if he would quit the queen's court and the prince's party. Henry Seymour and colonel Edward Villiers went about that time in Paris, and of this junctio in those offers the last engaged his prime agent in England mr. Henry Penruddock the late six clerk. By the last letters it doth seem, as if prince Rupert had an intention to see Cologne before Modena ; and if he can break Hyde's neck here, it may alter his design, and make him stay with the king, which he hath most mind of. This in a fortnight I shall be able to give you an account of. Gerard is going to Heidelberg to court the elector, and another into France. This is designed. The king would willingly return thither, and is now endeavouring to make his way : all the expectations are from England, what the levellers and other parties will do ; and also on the success of their treaties, and especially yours with France ; Charles Stuart believing the protector will be suddenly crowned king. Gerrard and Nepier still press their design.

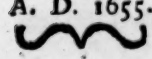
Extracts of several letters from mr. Leger, pastoral and divinity reader at Geneva, born in the Vallies of Piedmont, and appointed for their affairs, written to mr. Stoupe.

May 22, 1655.

SIR, AND MOST HONOURED BROTHER,

BY yours of the 10th instant I have seen the proposition made by his highness the lord protector, to give some lands in Ireland to our poor exiled. I confess, when at first I heard of the massacre made among them, I had that thought, that those that had escaped that butchery, ought to go and settle themselves elsewhere, not seeing any likelihood for them to return home, or to live peaceably there. But having imparted the matter to the pastors of those churches, that are now dispersed, they have represented unto me, that they ought not to yield so easily to those, who little by little do mutilate and consume the body of our churches, having destroyed those of Calabria in the year 1650, those of the marquisate of Saluces in 1597 and 1602 ; and those of the Valley of Barcellona within the dominions of the duke of Savoy in 1623. That if they should forsake so easily those quarters, the adversaries would thereby be encouraged to take a resolution to destroy us so one after another, under several pretences. That we ought not to forsake those churches, who can prove their succession from the very time of the Apostles ; Claudius Taurinensis, archbishop of Turin, who had been counsellor to Charles the Great, having highly erected there the standard of the truth long before the Waldenses came thither. That those churches are a good bulwark to those of Dauphiné. That in the said Vallies there are several places, that are strong by nature. That there are yet great numbers of our brethren under arms, who have taken up heart again, and were entered again into part of the inheritance of their fathers, having wholly routed the Irish, who had taken possession of it. That they are able to maintain it, being secretly assisted by the forces of the neighbouring provinces, if but furnished with money. That therefore the chiefest work was to provide them with a sufficient proportion ; so in all likelihood the adversaries shall be at length forced to consent to their re-establishment ; whereas if our churches lose that only quarter they have in those parts of Italy, they will triumph and glory, that they have compassed their design of routing all the reformed out of Italy. That afterwards they will not fail to attempt upon the neighbouring villages of Dauphiné. In the mean while those churches are very much beholding to his highness the lord protector for his charitable offers, and do return him their hearty thanks. Therefore I entreat you, sir, to represent unto his highness, that it would be more convenient to wear out the forces of our adversaries by fighting them in those places, where our men being natural inhabitants, and knowing all the passages and streights, can defend themselves with advantage ; and, if God gives blessing to their endeavours, force their adversaries and bad

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

A. D. 1655.  bad neighbours to some accommodation, wherein I suppose France will be forward, since we hear from Paris, that the court hath not approved of what hath been done; and that they fear the dangerous consequence of those proceedings. We do not know yet what success the interposition of the protestant cantons will have, who have sent some deputies to Turin to his highness. We hope, that monsieur de St. André de Montbrun, who shall command the king's army in Italy, will endeavour the settling of that poor persecuted people. I do intreat to write to him heartily about it, and to represent to him the consequence of that business; it will be for the preservation of Pignerol, and the welfare of the churches of Dauphiné.

The abstract of another letter of the same from Geneva, the 30th of May, 1695. [N. S.]

SINCE our fugitives are come again into this country, the enemies do endeavour to entangle them in a treaty. Therefore it is high time, that from your parts they might be protected. It would be both a glorious and advantageous thing to act therein speedily, and speak high, for it is not convenient to act by way of supplication. The adversaries are now frightened, and find no men, that will engage to fight against desperate men in those places, where now there is nothing to be gotten but blows. After so many breaches of word, so many treasons, and deceits so abominable, our men can hardly resolve to submit themselves again under the government of the duke of Savoy, and to enter into a treaty with him; wherein yet they will receive such good counsel, as shall be given them. But in such a case it would be necessary, that our brethren, who so much suffered in their persons and goods, should be settled in a full possession of their liberties, in all such places where they inhabited, and namely in those, from which they have been expelled by the sieur Gastaldo, by virtue of the orders he then published; and that their concessions should be confirmed by the chamber and the senate. That their accord should be the more advantageous, it would be needful powerfully to countenance those, that are in arms, who would find assistance, if they had but some money.

The abstract of another letter of the same, of the 6th of June, 1655. [N. S.]

BY your two last and some other letters we received from London, we have seen the effect of your holy zeal, and your unwearied care for the poor remnant of the Italian churches. And all other churches in those parts have received a joy, that cannot be expressed; and do all bless the holy, generous, and heroick resolution of his highness, the lord protector, who shews to be so sensible of the persecutions of those poor flocks, and who undertakes their protection. By such a glorious action he approves himself the protector of all those, that are persecuted for righteousness sake, and wins to himself the affection of all oppressed people, chiefly of our brethren now in trouble, and all others interested in their re-establishment, and who do all together incessantly offer, and will still offer unto God their most fervent vows for his prosperity.

France cannot deny, but that their forces have been employed in that action. All the French soldiers, that were there, do witness still, that six regiments of the French army, namely, Grancey, Amboise, Carignan, Montpezat, De Ville, and the Irish regiment, have been made use of therein. And the French Gazette, printed at Paris the 8th of May 1655, with privilege, relating the news from Turin of the 24th of April, doth confirm it, saying, that with the guides, and with such orders as they received from the count de Quincey, who commands the French army, they came into the vallies by almost inaccessible places.

Besides the cruelties you have heard formerly, I have been lately informed by those that saw it, that those massacrers have ripped the bellies of women with child, and took the infants upon the point of their halberds; and that they have nailed divers persons upon the branches of trees, and so made them cruelly die. They have carried away a great number of children, whom they have sacrificed to the idol. They do torment the prisoners in a strange manner, to force them to change their religion; and if they refuse it, they put them to death in the prisons, where they have strangled many, or make them languish and linger, starving them, and giving them but four ounces of bread and a little water.

The deputy of the canton of the Switzers could never obtain the deliverance of the prisoners; yea and he never could prevail to have liberty to speak to any of them, nor even of those, that have changed their religion, whom the persecutors know to have apostatized by mere force, and therefore they keep them prisoners still; and if any of them comes again to profess the truth, they do inflict very rigorous pains on them. Such as they could not catch, they have banished them by publick edict, printed at Turin the 23d of May 1655, having set a price upon the heads of any of them, and

promised

promised rewards to those, that would murther any of them. Upon the mountains, or cliffs of the rocks, divers persons are daily found starved, either by cold or famine. A. D. 1655.

Those of our brethren, who are come again into their possessions, have retaken the strong passes of the Vallies at Angrogne, Val St. Martin, Prumell, and other places. The enemies have but a small fort in the mountain at Mirebouc, and in the plain Bricheras, la Tour, and the town of Lucerne, part whereof was lately burnt by ours; but supplies coming to the enemies, our men are necessitated to quit that place, which is in the plain. Our men have also taken and burned St. Second, Savillande, Mirandol, Oface, and other places, that their bad neighbours, who had burnt all their temples and houses, might feel the fruits of the war, and be paid in the same coin.

The Vallies being wholly destroyed, the enemies having burnt all the houses, and whatever they could not carry away, our men are in a most extream want and need, being forced to buy very dear what they lack, which they receive from other places; so that unless they be powerfully relieved, it is impossible for them to subsist long.

We do most humbly intreat you to press, as much as you can, that they might speedily be relieved.

Since the deputy of the cantons hath not been able to prevail, we think they will send an ambassador. But as we are sure, that they shall not succeed, unless it be by theatnings, and by a mere force, it is thought that the intervention of his highness the lord protector will be the most powerful, and that if he will speak high and big, they will be frightened, and will be afraid to anger him. Therefore it would be most convenient, that his highness should speedily send some to see and consider the state, wherein are our poor brethren, and to advise together, what is best to be done now; it being impossible that such a business be well managed by letters. If his highness resolves to send some body, as it is most needfull, to treat here, we wish extremely he would charge you with that commission, which we are confident you will worthily discharge; and we hope you will not shun the pain of that voyage, whereby you might be very serviceable for the consolation and re-establishment of those poor persecuted Christians, &c.

An intercepted letter of Brooks to mrs. Hannah Gay, Harris's wife's sister, inclosed to one Richard Stephens, a taylor in White Friers.

GOOD FRIEND,

YOU may think it strange I took so great a journey, as by this you will see I have, Vol. xxvi. and not given you a visit before departure. Surely it was not for want of respect; p. 291. but to speak plain, for fear of being caught by some of his highness's blood-hounds, who for some weeks lay in wait for me; and if caught, must have done as others, I think as innocent as myself, have suffered a long and tedious imprisonment, to prevent which I went where I am; and for what I have received of you to keep, I according to your desire put it out for a year; but seeing you have need of it, I will so order my concernment to have it paid to you in a short time; and had not your mother and sister, who I thought had been wiser, with others fallen so high a railing at me, you had had it before now. And truly, Hannah, I cannot but tell you, I am not a little troubled, that for my kindness I should be so ill regarded. Surely I have not deserved it at none of your hands. It seems I am made the abettor, inventor, and chief actor of that business, which how foolish, God and your own conscience can witness; so contrary was that to me; and God, who is the searcher of all hearts, knows I would have given a 100 l. out of my own purse (in that I lay at my house) it hath not been done, and in that my occasions have not permitted me to write. His highness it seemeth may be petitioned about; and some persons judge my friends threatened for them to be punished for me by some of your relations. I hope your spirit is of another temper, as if I were the veriest rogue that lived, and intended to cheat you. No, I bless God, I can say I scorn such an equivocation, though must tell you by all that know me, as well as myself, would have been counted (as well as should have been indeed) a fool to venture perpetual imprisonment to come to give you your money, which you know you had ordered me to put out but a month before. But to conclude, I do assure you, you shall be paid what I owe you within three or four months. I shall say no more, but you shall find me as heretofore your true friend; and so tell your relations, according as they use me, they shall find me

Dantzick, June 1, 1655. [N. S.]

Your loving friend,

E. S.

The agent of the prince of Transylvania to secretary Thurloe.

Generose ac magnifice domine, secretarie statûs, domine observandissime,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvi.
p. 81.

SI tam beatus essem, ut accessum obtinere possem ad generosam dominationem vestram, malletm oretenus desideria mea exponere, quam scripto aut literis; quia pro his hactenus nihil, quam silentium reportavi. Quia verò ipsa necessitas, aut si quid majus esse potest quam necessitas, me urget, ut petitiones meas repetam, denuo hoc meo scripto supplico, ut mei memor esse benevolè velit apud serenissimum dominum protectorem, ac clementissimam mihi impetrare dimissionem. Non possum edicere quantum incommodum habeat inde celsissimus Transylvaniæ princeps dominus meus clementissimus, quod tamdiu his in partibus commorari cogar. Quodcunque generosa vestra dominatio præstabit pro impetrandâ dimissione mei, summâ gratiarum actione recognoscam. Cæterum me gratiæ generosæ dominationis vestræ commendo. Dabam ex hospitio, 22 Maii, 1655.

Generosæ dominationis vestræ servitor,

P. S. Transmisi nuper propositiones secundum mandatum serenissimi domini protectoris vestræ generosæ dominationi; spero eas vestram generosam dominationem accepisse, & suæ serenitati obtulisse.

CONSTANTIN SCHAUM.
à celsissimo Transylvaniæ
principe ablegatus.

*Generoso & magnifico domino Johanni Thurloe, serenissime
ac potentissime reipublicæ Anglicanæ statûs secretario,
&c. Domino observantissimo.*

*Mr. W. Wyndham * to secretary Thurloe.*

HONORED SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 297.

THE fence of his highnes's displeasure hath bene a more then ordinarie affliction unto me, in regard of those speciall favours it hath pleased his goodness to vouchsafe me. The libertie of our profession hath allways bene to urge matters of law to the best advantage of our clyents, which made me now unawars of that rock, on which I am fallen. I have made an humble address to his highness by petition, which (according to usual course heer) I have commended to the hands of our listenant collonel Baxter.

I shall beseech you to further my desires therin, wherby I may have libertie to visitt my afflicted wife and children, now disconsolate in a farr remote cuntry. I present yow with my best respects and service, restinge

May 22, 1655.

Your obliged freind

and humble servant,

WILLIAM WYNDHAM.

A letter of intelligence.

Turin, June 2, 1655.

SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 137.

SINCE my last to you last week, this immediate past saturday at ten o'clock at night four persons entered with false keys in the convent of the Augustines, where finding one man alone, drew him down the stairs, cut off both his hands, broke his head, and cut his body into small pieces.

Exact search is made after the murderers, but yet none can be found.

The Hugonots, that fled from the Vallies to Dauphiné, and thereabouts, are lately returned about one thousand of them to attempt a place called St. Second, where near half the number were murdered, they pretending to get into the place by force (where marquis de Pianezza left one hundred and fifty soldiers to guard the place;) at length treated with the garrison, and a composition was made, so far that the soldiers opened the gates for the Hugonots, who as soon as they got in, fell upon the catholicks both great and

* He was confined to the Tower for pleading for mr. Cony. See Ludlow, Mem. p. 528.

small, and without any quarrell destroyed all with great cruelty. This caused the last tuesday his royal highness to send monsieur Marolles, lieutenant general of his infantry, with his regiment and the squadron of Savoy to hinder such disorders, and to chase all the Hugonots out of the Vallies, and treat them as they have the catholicks. But it is thought he can do but little harm to the Hugonots, having their retreats to the territories of France, and some inaccessible places, where the troops of Savoy cannot follow them.

In the mean time two deputies out of the canton of Bern in Switzerland arrived here last week to treat with his highness for accommodation for the said Hugonots. They represented the cause: his highness answered, he would communicate their business to his council, and after give answer; and in the mean time desired the deputies to go and appease the said Hugonots, to which they are gone, and we expect their return from them suddenly to accommodate them besides.

Here you have the freshest news of those Hugonots in this country, I assure you, from

Sir, yours, &c.

Mr. J. Aldworth to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

MY last unto you was of the 25th past from Tolon, eight leagues from hence; when Vol. xxvi. gave you notice I was there to procure of admirall Vandoisme the releasment of our P. 294. English ships, the which hee immediately accorded, telling mee, that the day before hee had received an expresse from the court for that purpose.

Since my arrivall heere, I have noe further advise of gen. Blake, then that he was still at Argeirs, where hee have been furnisht with all things hee needed to content. Monsieur de Merckure's skadron of ships and gallies hath furnisht Roza with provisions, and from thence is gone to a place called Port Vendoe, which is neare Cape de Quires, and hard by Roza also. The said place they have besiedged by land with the soldiers they carried with them; and batters it by sea with their ships and gallies, insomuch it's suposed in a very short time they will have it, in regard it's a place but indifferently fortified. There are 2 Spanish gallies, which they have besiedged also with 2 berganteines, which in probability they will have also. Monsieur de Merckure's gallies going for Roza took an English ship laden with lead, tynn, and other goods bound for this place: they have not yett sent her for Thollon. When she arrives there we hope the admirall will release her. The Portugall men of warr not yet arrived att Thollon. So for at present humbly take leave, and remayne

Your honnor's servant,

Marfeillia, June 2, 1655. [N. S.]

JO. ALDWORTH.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, June 2, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

SINCE my former, the duke of Longueville returning from the waters of Bourbon, Vol. xxvi. passed through Orleans, where he met his royal highness, who made much of him, p. 298. and received him very honourably: he is now at Montruebellay. Madam de Longueville did not pass that way, being yet at Bourbon. Madam de Guise arrived last wednesday at Orleans, being welcome to their royal highness, to whom she presented the next day in the afternoon the transactions made upon the arrest of the accounts betwixt the duke of Orleans and his daughter, which before they did see it, have signed it; and after being read, the daughter was not satisfied, being in hopes of more before that was judged. The accounts which the father ow'd to the daughter amounted to about 1,200,000 livres, upon which the judges rebated 400,000 livres for the possession of the lands the daughter had before she came to her due age, of which she received the profit of the rest. She is to be paid within three years by her father equally in three times, but the father being so good, is thought will content her wholly of what she desires, if she will but have patience. There are many circumstances in that process, but I see them not worth the pains of writing, being not to your purpose.

The duke of Orleans and his wife parted from Orleans monday last, and went to Blois; Mademoiselle went the same day to St. Fargeau, and in like manner parted madam de Guise for Paris.

We

A. D. 1655.



We have from Catalonia by the last letters, that prince Conti has besieged Caddaguees. We have also from Rome, that his holiness refused the abbot de la Riviere the bulls of his bishoprick of Langres; but that is not certain.

Last week a man being accused of blasphemy here was whipt thorough the streets of this city, and afterwards had the favour to carry the king's arms, being two flower de lis.

The parliament commanded all the prevosts here to put in execution the king's orders against the laquies not to carry any sword, for which one was four days ago whipt thorough the streets, and had been hanged, were it not he made them believe, he came then out of the country.

Mr. Marquis de Thiange marries this day madam de Mortemart, and so does mr. de Villequier mademoiselle de Villeroy.

This morning the king reiterated his orders, and had them printed, and affixed to the walls of Paris, that all the officers should come to their rendezvous in the field this very day, upon pain to lose their places; and his majesty knowing, that many will not obey, commanded all governours and generals to command them out timely, upon pain to lose their places and honours. In the mean time mr. Turenne endeavours to do what he can in gathering all his troops together towards Chauny, and the court intends towards la Fere in Picardy. It is not yet well known, how we shall begin our campaign. The armies of the said mr. Turenne will be composed of 337 companies of foot, and 292 companies of cavalry, which will come to the number, as supposed 10,000 men, without comprehending the regiment of guard and the king's horse. Some say they will besiege Londrecy, if they be not near it already.

It is written from Verdun of the 28th last month, that marquis Duffelles was arrived without his baggage, to gather all his troops that shall compose the Lorrain army thereabouts; and that the Spanish army that is upon the river of Muze, begins to remove; upon which river they made a bridge at Guet, to pass when they see occasion. Likewise that mr. count de Duraze was at Philipville, and marquis de Perlan at Marienburg, to order in some troops to Rocroy, where there are already 2000 foot, which are working a second counterscarpe, hearing the French were to besiege it.

The ceremonies of the prince de Modena and mademoiselle Martinozzi were solemnized last Sunday at Compiègne. Yesterday they were to depart from Modena, conveyed by mr. count de Noailles and his wife, who will disburse all for their voyage, till they come thither, and will be recompensed when they return hither. The duke of Savoy hearing that the Hugonot cantons of Switzerland sent their complaints to his majesty of France, for the affronts done to the Hugonots of Valle de Lucerne and St Martin, sent a courier himself to the French court, desiring not to give any protection to the said Hugonots.

Mr. Fabry, brother to the chancellor's wife, died last Friday in the morning, being more indebted than he was worth. We hear our treaty with you can take no effect, and that the extraordinary Spanish ambassador will retard it. We hear nothing from your fleet at sea, and less from our own as yet; which is all the news known.

Sir, to your most real servant.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, June 2, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 302.

YOURS I received by this post barren of news; only the protector's mercy to most of the late risers, which truly they deserved not; however his highness's indulgence is commendable. We see here our treaty with his highness is retarded, which gives us the greater jealousy of marquis de Leda, though some have written hither by the last post from London, that marquis de Leda would soon return into Flanders *re infestâ*. Here since my last we have no other news, but what you have in the occurrents annexed.

Because you are so curious after the business of the Hugonots of Savoy, I am inquisitive of that matter; and yesterday I have seen a letter from Turin, the mansion city of the duke of Savoy of the 19th of May, which imports thus:

That the troops in that country begin their meetings, and troops of France there in their march.

The 18th day of May two Hugonot ministers, with 58 others, were converted, and made abjuration of their heresy publicly before his highness in the great church of that city; and immediately one of the ministers preached against the religion he professed before.

Thursday before the date of this letter four hundred of the Hugonots Savoyan, that fled into France out of St. Martin, and other places, marched in arms to the Valley of St.

St. Martin, where they burnt the prevosté of Pery and that of Mizolo, and returned, A. D. 1655. after having taken with them all they could meet in their way. And friday following being encreased to the number of 600, they came to St. Seconde, where they entered into a house of the catholick reformed fathers *de la mission*, slew a priest, a lackey, and a boy of 15 years old at his prayers before the altar. After they took away all they could find in the church and house, and returned. As they were rigorously dealt with by the catholicks, so they deal with them, where they are strongest. These letters bring, that they kill all children they can catch, and cut off their heads; but that may be partiality in the writer of the letter or some other, for sure they are not so inhuman as to do such things. However it is so presented at the duke's court. Wherefore his highness sent count de Campillione with a body of the army to suppress them. What further shall come of it you shall know as soon as I can, for I intend to enquire after it, being you so much desire it, from,

Sir, yours.

Bordeaux to his son, the French ambassador in England.

Compeigne, June 2, 1655. [N. S.]

MY SON,

I WRIT to you in my last what I had understood since my arrival at court. All that Vol. xxvi. the Swifs proposed and declared to monsieur Ondedi of his relation's designs and offers p. 308. concerning the affairs of England, hath been reported to his eminence by the said Ondedi; whereof I have not had yet any communication given me. I verily believe it is done out of design, and to cast some kind of contempt upon your proceedings. And in regard all things pass here with much intricacy, I have discovered that his eminency hath some other correspondents in England besides yourself. But coming yesterday to see the earl of Brienne, being very much troubled about your affairs, I found him in private with his eminence; and staying till he came out from him, seeing me somewhat melancholy, he told me, he had some good news to tell me; that he had received letters of the conclusion of your treaty; and that by the next we should hear, that it was signed. At my return home I found your packet, wherein you give me advice, that you were agreed upon all the articles with your commissioners, and that there was order given for the engrossing of them. I wish you may send us by the next the good news that they are signed, and that no longer delays may be suggested for the keeping of you in England. However, as long as you see there is any hopes of concluding, never come away; for it is better to hazard 3000 l. more than to lose the fruits of all your labours and expences. I know you are hardly put to it to find money for your subsistence; and I confess, if I had it at present, I would willingly furnish you.

On monday next the king and the court doth remove from hence for la Fere, and from thence to his armies; so that I shall suddenly return to Paris, where I shall expect your letters; and in the mean time I would have you to observe very punctually the orders, which shall be sent you from the court.

A letter of intelligence.

Cologne, June 2, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

YOURS I received this week, by which I see all is quiet in England, and barrenness of Vol. xxvii. news as now we have almost here. You heard formerly how the duke of Gloucester p. 30. arrived here, and lodges at court in Ormond's lodgings. He learns Italian, as his brother does; for they intend to have a bout with Rome. It is said R. C. will change his house, being too small for his retinue, and all that follow him being inclined to it; for within a short time the young prince's royal with her young prince will be here, and then we shall have a formal court, with all ceremonies. To augment this court already colonel Stephens and other gentlemen, who were in England, came safe hither with the duke. I do not hear what is become of Wilmot; yet after came hither chancellor Hyde, sir George Hamilton, and some others. The lord Wentworth and many more are coming, as they say; but how they shall all live, God knows, for I am sure I do not.

Saturday last arrived here from Paris, sent by the quondam queen, one mr. Thomas Talbot, and one other gentleman with him. They were with the king the first day, and next with Ormond. They come to consult of sending some persons to Rome, and say some other plot is now found out for R. C. far beyond any that yet he had in excellency. What I can learn further of it, you shall have as soon as I can.

VOL. III.

6 C

They

A. D. 1655. They report here about R. C. that the king of Swedeland will have something to say to the states of Holland.

They give for granted also your peace with France. The protestants here and of all Germany are very sensible of the massacres committed in Savoy, as you will further hear. The Bishop of Munster goes on with his levies, and the electors ecclesiastical do the like. The prince elector of this place is gone to Triers for devotion sake; and I am still here

Sir, yours, &c.

A letter to monsieur de Bye, the Polish agent in England.

Hague, June 2, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 306.

THE envoy of Denmark, the lord Rosenwing, after that his first proposal was denied him, as ungrounded, hath delivered in since a second memorandum, wherein he complains, that the merchants do not observe the treaty made in the year 1649. The lords of Holland have ordered the same to be examined.

The Swedish preparations do cause the greatest difficulties. It is credibly affirmed, that their design is against Pillauw and Elbing, to take away the toll, that is put upon corn. Holland would not willingly engage against Sweden; yet they cannot well suffer, that the Swedes should become masters; wherefore they do daily consult how to prevent it. Letters are sent into England and France to their ambassadors, to consider how the same may be accommodated.

At Amsterdam several men of war are making ready to convoy the merchants (as is said) through the Sound.

They do confer with the minister of Brandenburg about a treaty for preserving of those few places, which he doth possess.

A letter from several officers in Ireland to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

Vol. xv.
p. 386.

WE thought it our duty to inform your highness, how deeply sensible we are of the sad condition of the servants of the Lord in Piedmont, called the Waldenses, upon the informations, that have hitherto come to us. Sad tidings are these, that the precious sons of Sion, comparable to fine gold, should be esteemed as an earthen pitcher, the work of the hands of the potter; Lam. iv. 2. Let it not, my lord, be as nothing to you and us that stand by, when we hear such a relation, and cannot behold any sorrow like unto that sorrow, which is done unto them, wherewith the Lord hath afflicted them in the day of his fierce anger. Let us all resolve to put on garments of heaviness with them, and say as formerly the church, Lam. ii. 11. Our eyes fail with tears, our bowels are troubled, our livers are poured upon the earth, for the destruction of the daughter of our people, because the children and sucklings are spoiled in the streets.

As to the transactions of your affairs with foreign states, we rather desire to trust the wisdom of the Lord, by which we hope you act, than to take the confidence to pry into them; and therefore shall not in the least presume to interpose with our advice, but rather humbly to beg, that these and other distressed protestants in the world may continue, as we hope they are already, much upon your heart, that these nations may not sit down in quiet and contentment, as if they were in a blessed condition, when the distressed and afflicted people of God, have so bitter a portion, even a cup of astonishment put into their hands to drink, by that scarlet strumpet, who makes herself drunk with the blood of the fairs, because they refuse to drink of the wine of her fornication. What peace can we rejoice in, when the whoredom, murders, and witchcrafts of Jezebel are so many? Who knows what the Lord of hosts is doing in this day of his power? May not the experiences we have had of that mighty arm breaking in pieces the pride of proud oppressors, make us trust, that though their pride hath lifted them up to the heaven, and their

they shall perish in their own we may hope, that we shall take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, how hath the oppressor ceased? Isaiah xiv. 4. If you have a prey put into your hand, the Lord grant you may make use of it for these people's relief. Who knoweth whether the Lord hath not intrusted and exalted you, for such a time as this? We do not the least distrust of your tenderness towards them, sense of their sufferings, readiness to manifest both, as the providence

providence of the Lord shall call; but desire to strengthen your hand in that good work of God, and continue your prayers at the throne of grace for them, which we trust shall not be there alone; but hope, that many thousands of God's people will pour forth the same petitions for them; which through his grace we shall not cease to do. Let the blood of Ireland be fresh in your view, and their treachery cry aloud in your ears; that the frequent solicitations, wherewith you are compassed, may not slack your hand to an unsafe pity of those, whose principles in all ages carry them forth to such brutish and inhuman practices, which consist not with human society: and let not such be left untransplanted here, or unminded in England, whose continuance amongst us do palpably hazard the very being of protestant interest in these nations.

That the Lord may direct you, and make you a polished shaft in his quiver, to wound to the heart cruel and proud oppressors, is the prayers of

Your highness's humble servants,

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Charles Fleetwood, | Tho. Stanley, | Robert Wilkinson, |
| Har. Waller, | J. Vernon, | Richard Waller, |
| Hen. Jones, | Rich. Laughlin, | Ja. Hutchinson, |
| Hen. Prittie, | William Owen, | William Shawe, |
| Theo. Sandford, | Hen. Grant, | Edward Warren, |
| D. Abbot, | John Nelson, | John Denison, |
| Hie. Sankey, | William Low, | Peyton Lehunte, |
| Alex. Brufield, | William Morris, | H. Walcott, |
| John Jeffries, | William Walker, | Hen. Johnson, |
| Robert Ormes, | Ste. Lambe, | William Sheldon, |
| J. Trevor, | Fra. Gore, | Abel Warren, |
| Ph. Carteret, | J. Stopford, | John Bennet, |
| F. Wheeler, | R. Preston, | Felix Longe, |
| Ant. Morgan, | Robert Stamall, | William Burgefs, |
| Hen. Jones, | John Reding, | William Heydon. |

To mr. Petit.

Paris, $\frac{2}{11}$ { June } 1655.
May

SIR,

THE court is still at Compiègne, where the betrothing of the duke of Modena's Vol. xxvi. eldest son with the lady Martinozzi has been accomplished on thursday last. The P. 313. ceremonies of the wedding were made on the sunday, there being both balls and masks, each one striving to testify by his joy the part they took in that of his eminence, who hath never shewed himself so joyful. It is thought the king will depart from thence on friday next for la Fere. Marshall of Turenne having cast a convoy into Quesnoy, was yesterday to cast a second therein, whilst all the troops destinated for his army arrive from all sides to their rendezvous. There runneth also a rumour, that Landrecy is invested, but I believe not. The enemies fortify all other places. You may see by the here annexed copy of a letter from Verdun, which cometh from a person of quality and employment, which will inform you of the state of the affair of the frontier of Champagne. It is thought the duke of Mantua's voyage is broken, or that it is put off for a while. The differences between the duke of Orleans and mademoiselle his eldest daughter, touching the administration he hath had of her means during her minority, have been ended by the arbitrators, which had been nominated by the dutchess of Guise, to whom they had wholly remitted themselves. Mademoiselle hath not received the advantages she promised herself thereof; and I believe that all things being well compensated, they will remain reciprocally quitted.

It is written from Rome, that amongst the reformations made by the pope, he hath caused a command to be given unto all the whores that are there, to go out of the said city, and out of all ecclesiastical land, under penalty of corporal punishment; whereupon hath been found written upon the Pasquin, *Laudate pueri dominum.*

An

An information.

May 23, 1655.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvi.
P. 312.

That about six weeks since there was divers persons, as shall be hereafter named, viz. Sir Richard Minshaw of Essex 4000 l. per ann. estate, Sir Henry Jerningham of Norfolk, doctor Frier of the Temple, with divers others of quality, which did resolve then of a design, (to wit) that did resolve by watermen and divers gentlemen in the night to blow up his highness, or otherwise to dispatch him in his lodgings at Whitehall, which was to be effected from Lambeth, where all things are to be prepared, which ——— is to make ready, and is to have 30,000 l. for his pains, being resolved not to act it any way, but by cutting off his highness; and after that they should have men to carry on the design for an insurrection, which business hath been aggravated the more to be acted by reason of the late proclamation. The persons more in the business are Sir Robert Hurlston, Sir Robert Sherley, Mr. Cramlingham of Newcastle, and his brother, who married Sir Henry Jerningham's sister.

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
P. 320.

I Cannot but desire to sympathise with those poore people the Waldenses; and yet I hope it is a further heaping up of that measure, which will, I am perswaded, hasten the downefall of that interest, which is so diametrically opposite unto that, which wee may call truly our Lord Jesus his worke and designe, which wee may with assurance be perswaded it will be fulfilled in it's time and season. I confesse I am not without my hopes, that his highness may be particularly raised up for such a day as this is, in being a shelter to those poore persecuted protestants in forraine parts. It is a worke, the more his heart is enlarged thereunto, the greater witness I trust there will be from the Lord in owning of him. I hope providence will open some way for him therein. As to what you write concerning our transplantation heere, I am glad to understande you have so good a fence of it; for certainly it is a worke of very great publicque advantage, and that wherein the Lord will appeare in owning of it, though it hath been strangely obstructed and discouraged by the discountenance it hath received from England. There is no doubt, as bad, if not a worse spirit in these people than is in those of Savoy. Wee are on in the graduall transplantation, though the hopes the people have from England of a dispensation makes them keepe off, and will not transplant so readily as otherwise they would, if there thoughts were free from expectations out of England. If his highness and the councill would but write a letter to incourage us in the prosecution of that worke, it would be of singular use. However, I hope the Lord will give me a heart to labour under all difficulties, for the accomplishment of so great and good a worke, till I am commanded the contrary. As for the fowre courts, I shall send you my private thoughts; I have no concernment but the publicques in the business. I have not one neere kinsman in office in the three nations. My business is to serve the publicque, not my selfe; and therefore I can with the more confidence presume to write unto you these things, as my especiall friend, whose civill oblidgements are very thankfully owned, and would be manifestly acknowledged, if in any thing I could serve you. I desire you would acquaint his highness and councill, that we cannot with any safety spare the number, which are ordered to be reduced, till those are returned to us, which are in England. Our wants of money are extremely great. What can be imagined will become of us, if not suddenly supplied? I beg your care herein, and remaine

May 23, 1655.

Your very affectionate friend and servant,

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to his father.

June 3, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

V. l. p. 231. I HAVE received with your last letter of the 29 of May, that of his eminence and of the earl of Brienne, which declare, that some had given to the court advice, which did differ much from that you had at Paris; for the court was assured, that it depended on me only

only to conclude, and that the protector complained, that the king had no other design A. D. 1655.
 but to amuse him; and you understood, that it was this government, which endeavoured nothing else but to deceive me. I will not tell you my opinion upon these two advices; but only I will assure you, that it must be, that I am very stupid for not observing, that they did endeavour here to delay my negotiation. In my mind I conceive, that all my letters have still declared so much, and you may answer in my defence, when you hear any body speak of it, that I can see as well as those who are at Paris, and that I govern my conduct according to my orders. I expect upon my letter of the last week some kind of answer. I would have the court to take their last resolution as well upon this day's letter, as upon that which the lord protector saith he will send by an express. If the court doth write precisely in their letter, which I expect, I will soon dispatch my business here, being very weary of staying here any longer with so little satisfaction; besides I do ingeniously confess, I do find them now not to deal sincerely with me. However I do earnestly entreat you to do all what you can to procure me some money, in case it be my misfortune to make any longer abode in this country, that so I may have wherewithal to subsist. Without doubt the ill humour, which the news of this day will produce, will render my pursuances less favourable; but it may be after the first motions they will consider, that there is not any thing to be laid to my charge; that I have not been wanting in my cares and endeavours; and if that there hath been so much diversity in my advice within this month, it hath been occasioned through the different words, which have been given me; and unless I would make false relations, I could not write otherwise. But the court may remember, that I have always hinted in my letters, that the intention of the protector and this government was always to amuse us, and not to conclude till the very last: and this doth appear by what the secretary of state hath sent me this evening, instead of the treaty, which he promised to send me after it was writ out fair: he hath sent me word, that his highness would first send an express to the king, with a letter in favour of the protestants of Savoy, who suffer great persecutions; that they would send me to morrow the copy, and desire a pass of me. This pretence of delaying is a little coloured; besides, they could not find any other, in regard all the conditions are agreed on, and this government, it may be, doth think to render themselves agreeable to the people of England by such offices; and that the rupture with France would pass for a war for religion sake; but the people is disabused, and have learned more wit, having had experience enough of this fallacy in their own wars. And the people of condition and understanding, and foreign nations will not find, that after three years delay, the justice, though never so vigorous, which the duke of Savoy doth exercise, ought to produce upon good ground a war between France and England. Besides I can hardly believe, that the lord protector doth know himself so ill, that the power of the king, and the weakness of Spain, can cause him to hope any advantage from a war with the one, and from a strict league with the other: however the wisest may fail; and then it is hard, that the conjectural reasonings, such as mine are, should not be false. If I had not particular advice, I would not rely so much upon that, which to my thinking ought to be, and that which every body doth believe; and the design of their fleet, which is gone for America, is a sufficient argument to induce every body to believe it.

They have imprisoned some here on suspicion of a design against the person of the protector. The lawyers, who are in prison, say not a word, and the causes of their clients are put off till a further hearing.

I had hoped, that my express would have brought you the articles signed ere now; but now you must not any longer expect them, unless they alter their mind here, which is not likely. I could wish this might find you at Compiègne, that so you might send me word more particularly how you find the minds of the ministers; and that governing my conduct upon their intrinsical motions, I might not expose myself to be accused hereafter of precipitation, or of too much patience; and that you might according to the resolutions, which the court shall take, solicit some orders for my particular interests.

The ambassador of Spain hath great offers to make, and the protector hath as great to demand; but what they be I am ignorant of, only I believe he is not come altogether with a compliment.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to monsieur Fly, lieutenant of the admiralty at Calais.

SIR,

I WILL not take from you the hope, which my former letters have given you of a Vol. xxvi.
 speedy and happy issue of my negotiation; but I will withal advertise you, that you P. 322.
 must not rejoice too much before the time; and that in treaties there is nothing sure, till

VOL. III.

6 D

all

A. D. 1655. all be signed, especially when one is to treat with the English. We have here no considerable news to write at present. You will do me a courtesy to write me of all that passeth upon our frontiers.

June 3, 1655. [N. S.]

Bordeaux, *the French ambassador in England, to count Brienne.*

MY LORD,

Vol. xxvi.
P. 323.

IT will require no small time to learn the humours of this government, their way of proceedings being altogether strange and different from others: this will appear unto you to be truth, if you will consider but this one passage. About two months since we were agreed upon all the articles; and at the time when I expected my commissioners to sign, they formed a difficulty upon that of the transporting of the goods of enemies. After that I had yielded to their desire upon the word, which the lord ambassador of the United Provinces brought me on their behalf, of a speedy conclusion, they came to me with articles altogether differing from those, upon which we were agreed in writing, mentioning old questions having no ground to uphold them; neither would they have made any stir about it, or invented so many pretences, had their design not been, that they had a mind to stay for the ambassador of Spain, to hear what he had to propound. After this happened some domestick troubles, which gave them some further matter to furnish me with new put-offs. Nothing could be resolved upon concerning my affairs during that time; and now it is about eight days since, that my commissioners gave me positive word not to defer it any longer. I have prest them ever since to sign the treaty; they have seemed still to desire the same, causing the treaty to be writ over fair; and having kept me in this hope till this afternoon, having sent to know in the morning how affairs stood, the secretary of state gave me the same hopes, which my commissioners had done; but since he hath altered his tone, and sent me word, charging my man to tell me, that his highness being moved at the cries and lamentations of the poor protestants of Savoy, had resolved first, before he would sign, to send an express to the king in their behalf; adding many protestations, that it was no pretence to hinder the accommodation; but that the great cruelties, which were exercised against their confraters, whereof the news came but to day, and the great authority, which the king hath upon the duke of Savoy, did oblige my lord protector to do them this office; and that he could not sign a treaty in such a rencounter as this. I confess I was surprized at this alteration; if one do consider the reasons I have for it; first the advantage this government will find in the amity of France; secondly the assurance my commissioners gave me of an accommodation. And thirdly the design of their fleet in America against the Spanish possessions there.

I know not now to what I shall attribute this proceeding so contrary to all expectation. The zeal of religion certainly is not able to shake the design of the lord Protector. It is true, that Spain hath employed several agents to spread this news up and down, to provoke the people to compassion. All that I am able to say is, that the sending of this express with a letter to the king doth give great jealousy of mistrust, and that it is a mere pretence, on purpose to delay the conclusion of the treaty; and in case they do not alter their resolution, I shall make my retreat, unless I am ordered to the contrary.

June 3, 1655. [N. S.]

The prince of Condé to Barriere.

From the camp near Valcourt, June 3, 1655.

Vol. xxvi.
P. 377.

THIS letter will signify unto you, how that I have received your two packets of the 21st and 28th of the last month. It will also let you know, that I do approve of what you have said to 70. 29. 16. 9. 34. Continue to take care to give me all the advice you can from thence with the same exactness as you have done hitherto. I will also take care on my part, to let you know all that passeth during this campaign.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

HERE is this week arrived an English ship from the East Indies, cal'd the Jonathan, A. D. 1655. laden with pepper from Bantam, some sugar, and a little ginger. This is the second ship, that in my time has come to this place directly from the East Indies. She has had a quick voyage, not being above 11½ months since she departed England. Upon the coast of Spain she met with a squadron of 6 Argier men of war, who told her, that general Blak was departed from Argier towards the coast of Provence; and that his fleet had found as free entertainment there, as if they had been in England. 'Tis not improbable, but we shall in few days have some letters from the fleet. At Genoa has been published a free trade for the state of Milan, and at Naples has been taken off the sequestration laid on the Genovesi estates, all which speaks an adjustment betwixt Spain and them. In the meantime the duke of Modena goes on in levying soldiers, being countenanced by France, and connived at by the pope. The old cardinal Medici is returned to Florence, being, as reported, somewhat distant betwixt the pope and him. The pope begins to be mindful of his kindred, having made his brother captain of the guard, and begins to be mindful of the rest of his kindred. A small English ship arrived here 2 days since from Genoa met with 8 Spanish galleys going from Naples for Finale with soldiers. They are likewise preparing to send some ships from Naples with soldiers for Catalonia. All the world is in expectation what design general Pen's fleet is gone on. Some say Hispaniola, others Cuba, Vera Cruz, Nombre de Dios, Cartagena, and Porto Bello. This latter by very knowing men would prove most advantageous, because it would command the trade and treasure of Peru. I am bound to write you what I hear; wherein I pray pardon the many errors of,

Leghorn, June 4, 1655. [N. S.]

Right honourable,

your most humble

and faithful servant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

The late Geneva ambassador that was in England is returned home, and gives a very good relation of England and its government, as he has reason.

A letter to monsieur Barriere, the prince of Condé's agent in England.

From the camp near Valcourt, June 4, 1655. [N. S.]

THIS is the 10th day that his highness parted from Brussels. That which did oblige him to part so soon was the rumour that went, that Rocroy was to be besieged; and in regard he would not neglect any thing for the welfare of his own places, as well as of those of his majesty, he came in all haste to Philipville, where was the rendezvous of his troops, which are now all together, and in a very good condition. The enemy hath put within these two days a new convoy into Quefnoy. Turenne was at the head himself with 200 horse; he found no resistance, the generals of Spain being all at Brussels, and his highness not having forces enough to oppose him, in regard he had put almost all his forces into several places, and that his horse was not then arrived. There happened a day since a very sad accident at Mariembourg; the whole magazine was blown up, and half the town burnt, many were killed. As soon as his highness had notice of it, he sent presently two regiments of horse and one of foot with ammunition; so that the place is out of danger of being surprized.

A letter of intelligence from Holland.

SIR,

I HAVE no more to communicate unto you concerning the publick, then what I wrote you in my last of the 28th of May, affaires remaining as they then were; only there are some rumours of the Sweedes moving towards these parts, which gives a great alarm to the states. They are sending forces up the Rine to strengthen their garrisons lying that way. The court of admiralties are resummon'd in the Hage, which is supposed to consult

A. D. 1655. consult of a fleet to be made ready, eyther to go lye in the Sound or for the Streights. You need not feare they will doe any thinge of hostilitye to offend you. The surprizall of their ships at the Barbados is quietly digested by them. I heare nothinge that they are acting at Ceullen; therefore I shall only ad, that I am most faythfully,

June 4, 1655. N. S.

Sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN ADDAMS.

Chanut, *the French ambassador in Holland, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.*

Hague, June 4, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxvi.
P. 355.

IF you were not in a country, where there doth fall oftentimes many things between the cup and the lips, I should be sure, that the next exprefs would bring me the news of the signing of the treaty. I do expect it, but I still forbear to make ready the compliment, which I owe unto you upon this occasion, in regard I would be certain of the event of your negotiation. I am glad to understand by your letter of the 28th of the last month, that they spoke to you so moderately about the busines, that had happened in Savoy; for it is not credible, what a deal of do they have made about it here. The pulpits have thundered it out to some purpose; and they accused us for giving of the counsel, and causing the same to be executed. In short, those, that do not love us, triumphed sufficiently for some days. Now they begin to be informed of the fact, they will be somewhat satisfied; but the people are still enraged about it.

They are busy with a minister of the duke of Brandenburg, to contrive some defensive league between them; but it proceeds very slowly.

I do very well believe what you write me, that the lord protector hath given leave to the Swedes to raise 6000 Scots; but I shall not be the only person, that doth admire, where Sweden will have money to pay those levies, after so many expences which they have been at of late years.

My lord, I have one request to make unto you, which I make no doubt but you will be willing to grant. Monsieur Servien having given me order to build a pleasure-boat here for the king to take his pleasure in upon the river Seine, the same being built in the name of the lord ambassador Boreel in France, but the thing being discovered, now the question is, how to send it in safety. If your treaty be concluded, there is no danger of the English; but if not, it will be necessary, that we should have a pass from the lord protector, who, in my opinion, will not deny to give it for a pleasure-boat. And although your treaty be not concluded, this boat being acknowledged by my lord Boreel to belong to him, I make no doubt but monsieur Nieuport will do you the favour to get you a pass. I pray let this pass be had as soon as may be.

A Letter of intelligence from the Hague.

May 29, 1655.

Vol. xxvi.
P. 263.

THE earl of Stierumb hath caused to be represented, that being required on the behalf of the king of Sweden, to raise a regiment of horse, and for him to serve a campaign as colonel, he hath well begun to raise the regiment, but will not engage in the service, without leave of this state, desiring permission at least for six months. And the commissioners of Zutphen said, that daily the taverns at Zutphen were full of cavaliers and Swedish officers, drinking to the health of the king of Sweden.

In the mean time that they are here in great jealousy of the said king or his design, there was but one province, which durst resolve in the negative; all the rest did receive it, and took time to consider of it. But in regard they have given leave to serve elsewhere, as well the king of France, as the electors of Brandenburg, Heidelberg, &c. they can hardly deny it.

There will be further notice given to the lord Rosenwing, that they do not find, that his request or demand is in any wise grounded.

May 30.

It seemeth, that in the assembly of the states general they are very angry at those accidents in the Vallies of Piedmont; and after what manner they have writ, is to be seen by the enclosed, it being already resolved and agreed on to write so, yea, before the letter of Zurich was arrived. They did not think fit to write to the king of France, because there was already writ about it to the lord Boreel. I saw, that one of the states general (formerly a good Frenchman) in good company did drink to the health and good success of the marquis of Caracena, to the end that he may soundly beat those troops of the duke of Savoy; and withal said, that they regard and esteem the French by doing of such a thing not a hair better, yea worse than the Spaniard; so that the lord Nieuport will do well not to endeavour so much for the good of France.

A. D. 1655.

May 31.

There are some letters from the commissioners at Groningen of the 26th, advising that they were still busy in *preliminaribus*, and that either party did endeavour to lay and ground their right. The commissioners did endeavour to induce the parties to submit the difference.

They deliberate to assist the banished Piedmontese with a subsidy by way of a general collection.

There hath been likewise under hand a complaint of those of the reformed religion in the country of Juliers and Berges, how that the duke of Newburgh doth deal with them so rigorously, by taking from them their churches, and by hindering of them to preach.

The Danish ministers do still insist to be indemnified for their loss sustained; and a new conference is appointed.

In Zealand the office of calling the states together doth belong to the council of state; now it doth happen, that most of the council are for Holland party, who do delay the convocation, and will hinder it, if they can, till after St. John, to see how the election will go at Goes.

June 1.

There is come a letter from the admiralty of Amsterdam, containing, that they have very much advanced the ships designed for the convoys towards the Mediterranean sea; such a name they give it. But whether at present they will make use of them before any thing else, to go and look to the Sound, will be seen upon this sudden assembly of Holland.

Accidentally also will be mentioned in this assembly the case of Gorcum, two of the magistrates having been here to complain to the council, how the court of Holland (which ought not to manage any other business, but the justice) hath interposed in a difference belonging purely to the state, declaring, that the court hath attempted upon their privileges.

The said council hath sent this complaint to the cities to come instructed upon it; and in all likelihood the most part will be for the magistrate, and will not have the court to meddle with affairs of state.

They are fully resolved to do good to the poor exiled Piedmontese; but they have writ, whether they do desire it in corn or in money. They would also willingly have it, (at least it hath been spoken in the assembly) that the protector, who is powerful at sea, should give some blow to the duke of Savoy, or his territories and harbours.

In Zealand the council cannot yet agree about the day of the assembly; and that is done to favour the Holland party at Goes.

June 2.

The accident of the Piedmontese doth still jog on, there having been deliberation to order a collection to be made for them; upon which the lords of Holland have promised to declare themselves. And there being printed here in the weekly intelligence, that the Piedmontese through the massacring of two capuchins had occasioned their own ruin, those of Holland caused the printer to be found out, call'd Breeckvelt, to know of whom he had that news: he absented himself, and is not to be had. It is supposed, that the ambassador of France, or the council of that nation Janot, did cause it to be printed. The lord Nieuport hath writ, that the treaty between France and England is fully concluded. I do perceive, that the clearest sighted do conceive at present some jealousy from that, and would be willing, that that treaty might not be ended; for they do imagine, that France and Sweden are agreed to prejudice the house of Austria, and that the chiefest design of the Swedish preparations is against Austria. And the lord Nieuport will have no great thanks given him for helping to conclude the treaty between England and France.

A. D. 1655. The assembly of Holland doth only stay for the raet pensionary De Witt, who will be here to night.

In Zealand, before they call the assembly, the council will make a journey to Tolen, to endeavour to accommodate the difference there.

June 3.

The raet pensionary De Witt arrived here yesterday from Groningen; and although the bad Hollanders have published, that these commissioners of the generality, chiefly the Hollanders, were gone thither, more to embroil and egg on the business (to the end to discover the weakness of a stadtholder) than to accommodate it; however he hath done much good, and hath had good success, having been busy the last day from nine of the clock in the morning till past one at night, having made an agreement by provision; the rest remaining to finish the business. Good part of this morning was spent with this report; as also with the report of the arrears of those, who are come from Brazil; item, about the business of Limborch and Outremeuse. They have also proposed again to make a collection for the poor banished people of Piedmont, wherein nothing is yet resolved, in regard those poor people have not yet writ hither; and all that hath been resolved here hath been of their own accord. And they would be glad to see here, that the protector would undertake the re-establishment of those poor people.

As for the alliance with Brandenburg, some press it; however, I am assured by a good hand, that on the behalf of Brandenburg they do remain still cold and irresolute, which doth confirm the suspicion, that Brandenburg is agreed with Sweden. Likewise they do here very much admire, that the city of Dantzick doth remain so secure; or that it doth not make any address to this state, to demand assistance *in omnem eventum*: but the truth is, that in the year 1651 this state did use that city a little rudely, inciting the king of Denmark against the city; and since during the war with the English, the private men of war have used great insolence against all the Easterlings, insomuch that the city of Dantzick doth make no address to this state.

The minister of Denmark doth still continue here, but they do likewise continue not to do any thing in what he demandeth.

And the commissioners have orders to make a projected answer, which will be a negative one.

June 4, [1655. N. S.]

Your most humble servant.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

SIR,

States of Holland

Vol. xxvi.
P. 360.

THE 105 are assembled at present upon the abolition or continuation of the safe conduct money, and last money, and their complaints and reasons against the other cities are to be seen in the copy; so that I perceive not only a great uncertainty for the equipment, which was already projected in the end of the last year; but also an irresolution for the design and employment of those ships which are ready. It is true, that states of Holland

105 have a great care and thought for Dantzick; or to speak better for their interest, Sweden

fearing that 141 being master of Prussia, will furiously charge the commerce. *Sed multos in summa pericula misit venturi timor ipse mali.*

It doth seem to me, that they have too much fear. In the mean time Dantzick doth

Sweden

Denmark

not seem to be affected to 141; at least doth not yet make address here, nor to 142; and Denmark

in effect 142 is low and without power, and cannot nor dares not help the said city.

Brandenburgh

Brandenburgh

They do still treat with 170; but they do doubt whether 170 be not likewise agreed Sweden

with 141. They have deliberated to make a collection for the Piedmontese; but they do think it fitter to make some more effective endeavours, and to deliberate to help, that those poor people may be re-established in their possessions and habitations; and this is to be writ to the lords Nieuport and Boreel. I am

Your most humble servant.

June 4, [1655. N. S.]

Cardinal

Cardinal Mazarin to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Compeigne, June 4, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

IN regard your letter of the 25th of May doth not contain any thing more precise than your foregoing, upon the subject of the accommodation, I have not any thing to add to those I have formerly writ unto you; to which I refer my self.

I pray you in the mean time to send me, as soon as you can, at least four horses for my person, not having one left me, that is for my use, since the mortality that is come in my itable; and you may endeavour to buy others. The price I will not stand upon.

A. D. 1655.
In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

Brienne to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

MY LORD,

YOUR letter of the 26th of the last month doth give us hope, that through your patience you have at last overcome all the difficulties, which you had met with; and that in the end the conditions of the treaty being agreed on, there remained nothing but the appointing of a day and hour for the signing of them.

I confess to you ingenuously, that I am very impatient to receive your next letters. The business ought not to be left so long at an uncertainty: but whosoever knoweth the English, doth know, that whosoever will treat with them must arm themselves with much patience. There could not be better answered, than what you have done to the demand of your commissioners, who would pass for men altogether ignorant of the affairs of the world, if they had been ignorant, that the prince of Savoy is a sovereign prince, and one that doth dispose of the conduct of his state, as he thinks fit. But having employed the forces of France to chastise the obstinacy and rebellion of his subjects, (I repeat the proper terms, whereof he maketh use) it doth give occasion to intercede for those poor miserable creatures; and I dare believe, that if the protector is satisfied with what hath been demanded of you, that they may inhabit those places, which have been granted unto them, I make no doubt but it will have its effect; for the duke of Savoy cannot well deny to please his majesty therein. For my part I believe, that the said people are in the wrong, by the relation which I have seen of what past upon the subject of this business; and besides through the knowledge I have of those that profess the protestant religion, they are always inclined to meddle; and the ministers among them never get any reputation amongst them, but when they are stirring them up to sedition, and that they themselves are looked upon as zealots for their religion.

We have cause to believe, that the ambassadors of the catholick king did speak with sincerity enough to the ambassador of the states general, that there will be very little for them to do in England, which they have confessed without declaring it, by the resolution taken by the marquis of Lede to return home, and to leave the business to the management of the cardinal.

I shall forbear to add any thing more, in regard I suppose it will be in vain; for either you have signed, or else you are upon breaking. Therefore what I have further to add shall be signified unto you by next. In the mean time I hope you have observed such orders in your agreeing to the articles, as have been given you from hence.

Compeigne, June 4, 1655. [N. S.]

Boreel, the Dutch ambassador in France, to the states general.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

MY lords, since my last preceding letter of the 28th of May, I have not been idle to inform myself further of the cruelties committed against the inhabitants of the Vallies of Piedmont; and I am more and more confirmed in the occurrences and circumstances, as I have related the same in my preceding letter.

This affair, by some papists here (as I likewise understand, that they do in the Netherlands) is coloured under pretence, that this said massacre has been made as a well deserved punishment for a great crime, committed by the inhabitants of the said Vallies; namely, that a papist in the said Vallies being a rich man, happening to die, had left by his will and testament his whole estate to the monks of the mission, upon this express condition, that they should make a monastery of the deceased's house, there to receive and lodge such

Vol. xxvi.
p. 338.

A. D. 1655. such missionaries and other priests of the Roman clergy, that should happen to pass there; which house being finished, those protestants that lived at the said place are said to have risen, and falling upon the said father missionaries had very much abused the same; and that after having murdered them, they had skinned them, and put their skins upon sticks, and carried the same in procession from place to place throughout the Vallies, to the greatest scorn and affront of the Roman religion. That some of the protestants of the said Vallies, who detested this pretended fact, had sent to Turin to excuse this great crime; and that his royal highness had shewn them that he was inclined to pardon them, but that it was impossible to leave the same unpunished, and thereupon it had thus happened.

High and mighty lords, from all those that pretend to know very well all that has happened in the Vallies, I cannot hear that there is any thing at all in the pretended will, the murder of the missionaries, the exposing of their excoriated skins, and the deputation sent to the court of Turin to excuse the same.

Before this they gave out here, that a certain inhabitant of the Vallies, (I mean a private man) out of a personal hatred, had killed a Roman priest; and that thereupon the said just punishment had fallen upon all the inhabitants of the Vallies; but at present they are hence so much ashamed of the untruth of the said fact, that they stumble from one thing to another as it seems to disguise this cruel example.

It is gone so far, that above two hundred Switzers (among whom also those of your high mightinesses house here) are suddenly gone from hence to Switzerland, in order, as they say, to help to revenge the said cruelty. Now comes here a further advice from Grenoble, which says, that the exiled Waldenses have retired out of Piedmont into Dauphiné, and Pregelas, where the lord duke of Lefdiguierres, governor of Dauphiné, had promised them his protection. However that they were attacked in an hostile manner, as also the reformed inhabitants of Pregelas, by the baron or marquis of St. Domain (being actually in the king's service) with French troops, who after having killed some had set fire to a village there, which was done by the said St. Domain's French troops; whereupon those of Pregelas and other adjacent Vallies of Dauphiné, having taken up their arms, had repulsed the said St. Domain and his French troops back into Piedmont, from whence he had made an irruption upon the French territories. I must leave the truth hereof to the further advices,

Paris, June 4, 1655.
[N. S.]

Wherewith, &c.

high and mighty lords, &c.

(Sign'd)

W. BOREEL.

Nieuport, the Dutch ambassador in England, to the states general.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Vol. xxvi.
P. 330.

MY lords, on monday last four Scottish lords, who have been here in the tower ever since the battle of Worcester, in the year 1651, were carried somewhere else, two in a coach by land, and two in a barge by water; their wives and servants could not obtain leave to follow them. About the same time, two or three English gentlemen were likewise sent from thence to another place. They have for some days again talked of a new plot, whereupon a strict search has been made in the houses in and about Covent Garden, where my lord Byron and some other gentlemen have been secured. Your high mightinesses have heard, without doubt, by the way of Leghorn, that general Blake has burnt nine men of war in the harbour of Tunis, and cannonaded the Moors violently in their forts. The merchants of the Turkey company here are afraid, that perhaps it may be revenged upon them; but in general this action is praised, and they wish, that for the future the ships of your high mightinesses, as well as of this state, might be employed to destroy the naval forces of these and other Corsairs. Some ministers and elders of sundry churches in London have been with the lord protector, and have petitioned with many moving arguments, that his highness would take to heart the mournful condition of the poor reformed inhabitants of some Vallies of Piedmont; for which he has thanked them, and declared, that he was shocked in the highest degree at the inhuman cruelties, which are practised there. Yesterday morning, before I received your high mightinesses letter of the 27th of May last past, I was told, that his highness had received a further and circumstantial information of what has happened, sent him from out of those quarters; whereat he was astonished to the utmost, as likewise was the whole council, hearing the relation, in what manner

manner those poor wretches were butchered; that many women and virgins, after being scandalously ravished, were murdered, and their bodies ripp'd open, and numbers of infants dashed against the rocks. In the afternoon your high mightinesses above mentioned letter, with the other inclosed papers, being come to hands, I immediately demanded audience of the lord protector, which was given me in the evening between 7 and 8 o'clock. His highness having heard, how much your high mightinesses were concerned at those inhuman murders, and in what strong terms you had written to the duke of Savoy concerning the same, declared, that he was exceeding glad to observe your high mightinesses great zeal and affection, to intercede for these poor innocent people, assuring me that he was moved at it to his very soul, and that he was ready to venture his all for the protection of the protestant religion as well here as abroad; and that he most readily, with your high mightinesses, in this cause would swim or perish, trusting that the almighty God would revenge the same; that the example of Ireland was still in fresh memory, where he told me, that above two hundred thousand souls were massacred; that he would consider further what I had proposed him in the name of your high mightinesses, and do in this opportunity whatever should be judged needful and of service. Last tuesday letters came here from the fleet of general Pen, importing, that they were under sail the 31st of March, to put their design into execution, being, besides the sailors, above ten thousand land forces strong: they wait here impatiently for the success thereof. They assure me, that there are 28 good ships ready to reinforce the first fleet with men, ammunition, and other necessaries. The marquis of Argyle, whose son, with several other officers in Scotland, has made his composition, is expected here very soon. The impost of customs and excise will be introduced in Scotland and Ireland very speedily, on the same foot as it is here.

Wherewith, &c.

Westminster, June 4,

1655. [N. S.]

High and mighty lords, &c.

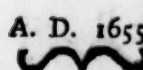
(Sign'd)

W. NIEUWPORT.

From Nieuport, the Dutch ambassador in England.

MY LORD,

I AM informed, that mr. Coyet, in his last audience, has desired leave in the name of Vol. xxvi. the crown of Sweden, to raise six regiments of foot in Scotland of one thousand men P. 341. each; but that the same being very suspicious for several reasons, would not be permitted. This day I have received from the hands of the lords of the great seal of England the known act of declaration and acquittance, both of them according to the form sent over. On the other hand mr. Peter van Dam, advocate and commissary of the Netherland East India company, has delivered the accepted assignations and bills of exchange, to the sum of eighty five thousand pounds sterling, to the aldermen sir Thomas Viner and others, who with consent of the English East India company, were authorised by the lord protector to receive the said money. Their high mightinesses act for the delivery of the island Poleron is exhibited likewise to the said commissaries, so that the known decision is now entirely complied with. I have made also this afternoon a request to mr. Thurloe, concerning the settling of the frontiers of New Netherland betwixt England and the United Provinces. He told me, that he would search for the papers; and that those of the English side had sent him as yet no informations at all; and that upon the sole allegations from one side, the lord protector having no knowledge of those affairs and circumstances, could not be desired to decide the same positively. However I intend, God willing, to make my further applications the beginning of next week; and in case I see that it cannot be done otherwise, I will insist upon this, that the directors or agents of both sides of the northern coast of America may be commissioned and appointed for that purpose. I have also, in obedience to their high mightinesses resolution of the 24th of May last past, touching the letter of intercession in favour of the English cloth, dated October 26, shewn to the said mr. Thurloe the authentick copies of sundry letters of the late kings of England, and desired, that the said lord protector writing to their high mightinesses might not treat them with less respect than the said serene kings have always done. Whereupon his honour declared to me, that his highness never had done otherwise; and that to the kings of France and Spain, the queen of Sweden, the kings of that realm, and of that of Denmark, the letters were never directed any otherwise, without any one's having shewn any dislike against it; that it was more than a superscription, and that understood, *Celsi & potentes domini*, under which he signed his name. However, in

A. D. 1655.  case their high mightinesses thought themselves prejudiced thereby, he believed that his highness would insist on no ceremonies, at a time, which ought to raise the one and the other to other thoughts; and that he therefore had directed accordingly the letter, which his highness had thought proper to write to their high mightinesses relating to the troubles of those of the protestant religion in the Vallies of Piedmont. He told me likewise, that the lord protector had sent an express with a letter to the king of France on that subject, as he assured me, written in the most civil and Christian like terms; and as I observe, an answer to the same will be expected, before the treaty with the lord ambassador de Bordeaux Neufville will be signed.

Westminster, June 4,
1655. [N. S.]

Wherewith, &c.

My lord, &c.

(Sign'd)

W. NIEUPORT.

The inclosed of the lord protector to their high mightinesses is just now sent to me by mr. Thurloe.

The commissioners of the great seal to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 363.

UPPON receipt of your letters this morning, signifying his highness's pleasure concerning the acquittance of the East India company, and his highness's ratification left in our hands, which we have in readiness, we have agreed to meet this afternoon at four a clock in the Middle Temple in the usual place, where we shall be ready to observe the directions of his highness, and obey his commands intimated by your letters. We remaine,

Sir, your humble servants,

May 25, 1655.

B. WHITELOCKE,
THO. WIDDRINGTON.
JOHN LISLE.

Sir Benjamin Wright to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 364.

MY laste unto your honor was of the 11th of May, accuseinge a former of the 22d of April by the way of Biluao, both which with another in answer to that which your honor was pleased to write unto me of the primo of February, I hope will come false unto your hands, and that you will vouchesafe to lett me know it by a letter from your honor for my better satisfaction. Now I shall lett you know of the arrivall at Rosas in Catalonia of a parte of the fleet the French had in Toulon, beinge, as is said, six gallies, twelve shippes, and some other small vessells, and in them came too thousand souldiers, which they landed ther with severall provisiones, and so departed to Cadaques, the which place they beseged by land and sea; and it is doubted, that they will carry it suddenly, for we have neither an armie at land nor on the sea as yet to oppose them.

The galeones that are in Cadiz makeinge redy for the West Indias, are to goe presently for Barcelona, to joine with those that are ther; for as yet the gallies and some shipes, that are expected from Naples, are not arrived. The shipes also that are at passage in Biscay are making ready with all expedition to goe into the Medeteranea sea, for ther the French will be stronge in shiping this summer, as it is reported. I pray God, they doe not the greatest parte of their buisnes, before we be in a posture to resist them; for it is not to be beleaved, how backward we are in all things necessary to encounter them. The not cominge home of the plate fleete from the West Indies, as was expected, hath caused great scarcetie of monies, the which hath very much hindered all our designes. There is lately arrived at Cadiz a ship of advize from Santo Domingo; shee departed thence the 18th of March, but bringeth no newes of your fleete under the command of generall Penn, to have appeared on those coasts; so that we hope, that your designe is not for that island, nor that of Cuva, notwithstandinge we still live in great feare.

The pope's nuntio, that did assist in this court, departed from hence towards Rome the 22d of the laste month; and 28th of this the nuntio, which hath bin these 14th months in Spaigne, but deteyned in the kingdome of Valencia, and not permitted to come to this court,

court, because this king insisted that the ould nuntio might still remayne, had his first audience, but as extreordinary, not as nuntio to reside heere, unless his majestie shall heereafter give way therto, in regard he is heere looked on as too much affected to the Frenche and the Barbarines, and reported also to be allied to the cardinal Mazarine. The ould dutchesse of Mantua, after 22 yeers that shee had bin entertayned in this kingdome by this kinge, now retorneth to the state of Milan. Shee departeth from Madrid this day towards San Sevastian, and from thence shee goeth through France. The king sendeth with her an Alcalde de corte to conduct her to the frontiers of France. Wee have advize from Flanders, that the marques de Leyde was past over from Dunquerque into England for extraordinary ambassadour from this kinge to his highnesse; and I hope with ample order to comply in all things with his highnesse pleasure; otherwayes in my opinion they cannot subsist. Sir, wisheinge to your honor all health and true happines, I commit you to God's protection, and remayne

Fom Madrid, June 5,
1655. [N. S.]

Your honor's most humble

and thrice obedient servant,

BENJAMIN WRIGHT.

A letter of intelligence.

Turin, Junii 5, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

BY the last I did not write, haying not much to say. Since I have only to tell you, Vol. xxvii
that the dutches royal fell into a convulsion apoplectic, which made her speech- P. 478.
less for half an hour, but now she is well again.

The French embassador, that resides here, has received strict orders from his master, to endeavour by all means possible to reconcile the Hugonots of the Valley to their prince. In the mean time, the Hugonots continue their ordinary courses in the confines of the Vallies. They have chose among them a chief, called Jayere, who was a butcher, and takes upon him the title of chevalier of Genevae, prince of the Vallies, and defender of the Christians of the said Vallies. He commands as an absolute prince. They have two principal officers, that take a particular care to recollect all the dead bodies of their brethren, which they set in a catalogue of their martyrs. They endeavoured this week newly to attempt about Lucerne, but they were repulled; they burnt notwithstanding 22 houses. They endeavoured also to take the post of Miraboque, being a place of great importance; where they slew eight soldiers, but retired, seeing they could not gain the post. They were pursued by a party out of Lucerne, sent by monsieur de Marolles, but they could not be overtaken before they recovered the mountains. Of this particlar business I hear no more at present: for other news here betwixt us, Modena and Milan, I presume you will have better from Paris, than from,

Sir, yours, &c.

A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.

Paris, the $\frac{5}{26}$ June, } 1655.
May, }

WE are informed, that part of our army hath invested Landrecy, and that the court is going from Compiagne to La Fere, to facilitate the good success of this enterprise. Marechal Turenne begun yesterday to march, and marechal de la Ferté cometh towards Rocroy to join him.

The princess of Carignan hath brought from court the spouse of the duke of Modena's son. She is to part next week for Italy, where the marquis of St. Andre Montbrun is gone to command under prince Thomas.

Our parliament met eight days ago, for the reception of two counsellors, which have been incorporated therein; and upon a proposition, which was made by mr. Benoist, counsellor and clerk, in the great chamber, to examine his majesty's edicts, it was deliberated and agreed, that most humble remonstrances should be made unto his majesty, that he might be pleased to put off the execution until the parliament had examined them.

Some write from Genoa in date of the $\frac{3}{10}$ th of May, that general Blake having of late presented himself with his fleet before the ports of Sardinia, the Insulars had refused the refreshments he demanded, and that it was assured, that the English merchants dwelling

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

A. D. 1655. in Spain secured their means, as if there should be some misunderstanding between England and that kingdom, where the Genoa ambassador had received satisfaction.

We still expect the signing of our treaty with my lord protector, after which, it's said, the pretended duke of York is to go to Rome, in his brother Charles's name, to solicit the pope to a general peace, and to assist the Stuarts.

You will see by the here inclosed, the jealousies cardinal Retz giveth to this court.

News sent from Paris to mr. Stoupe.

June 5. 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxvi.
p. 367.

THE king hath now sent to the king of Sweden mr. de Terlon, knight, with a compliment, and he carries unto him a very fine present.

A new ambassador of Venice is come *incognito*. He that is here prepares himself for his return.

They say here, that in case the peace be concluded betwixt England and France, that the duke of York shall go to Rome, in his brother's name, for to pray the pope, as the common father of the Christians, to make a peace between the two crowns, and to oblige the catholick kings and princes to assist him with all their forces to conquer again his kingdom and his dominions.

There is a report, that a part of the army of the king hath besieged Landrecy; others say, it is but invested.

Quefnoy hath been newly victualled by the mareschal of Hocquincourt.

The last letters of La Fere in Picardy do say, that all the waggons and carts were a preparing to depart, and that all did go to Landrecy.

Monsieur de Monjus, governor of the city of Arras, having hindred monsieur of Villemontay, whom the king had sent thither, from making informations of his ill demeanor against the inhabitants and neighbours, the king being warned of it, hath sent mr. de Crequi, knight, with a commission to lay hold on the governor, who having discovered this design, caused them to go out of the city; likewise three companies of the garrison, which he suspected. The prince of Condé hearing of this, hath sent two trumpeters to this governor, whereof the court mistrusting, doth go to Amiens to provide for the security of the said place.

'Tis likely they will be here at odds with the pope, because he will have no wars in Italy, and hath commanded the duke of Modena to lay down his arms, because that he doth also favour the cardinal de Retz. Mr. de Lionne having carried to the pope a packet, containing the informations against the abovesaid cardinal de Retz, his holiness foreseeing what it was, would not receive it.

The prince of Condé is not in a way of encountering any, but only of defending himself.

'Tis thought the French will make a great progress this year in the state of Milan, which is set upon by our best troops.

The king is fallen in love with the lady Manchini, the cardinal's niece. His love may tend to a marriage, to which nothing in France will oppose itself. Every body is ill contented, and no body stirs.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, June 5, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 372.

YOURS I received late by this post with little of news. It is even so with me. The marquis de Lede's negotiation, whatsoever it be, is a great vexation to this court; for they fear much he will hinder by his greater profers our peace with the lord protector; but we cannot learn what his profers are; and our ambassador Bordeaux seems by his last letters to his father to be doubtful of what success his treaty shall have, whereas formerly he writ with much confidence of a good issue.

They understand at court by letters from Bordeaux and others, that the protector is highly moved at the massacres committed in the Vallies of Lucerne and St. Martin upon the Hugonots; and that troubles them also, so that cardinal Mazarin is very much perplexed, having yet further cause, for he had a greater design, and gave large sums of money for the execution of it in Flanders. The design was the city of St. Omers to be delivered to him; but the plot is discovered, and the town secured for the king of Spain,

Spain with the loss of Mazarin's money, which makes him mad. This is yet very A. D. 1655.
fresh and secret, but true.

Cardinal Mazarin gave to secretary Navarre, as he past here, a good sum of money. It is believed Navarre served him, whilst he lived in France, for which he may give some account in Spain.

Here is not a word of general peace. Now it is thought our armies will set upon Rocroy or Landrecy.

The duke of Savoy, I hear, repents what has been done against the Hugonots: he has reason.

These three days past afforded no more news known to,

Sir, yours.

The Spanish ambassador to secretary Thurloe.

S^r mio,

ESperando hemos estado la semana pasada del señor protector a lo que en voz le representamos, y dejamos por escrito en la ultima audiencia, y estando el tiempo tan adelantado para començarse la campaña, y deviendo yo el marques de Lede asistir el tiempo della a los puestos que ocupo en Flandes, necesito mucho de breve despacho para poder bolverme a cumplir con esta oblig^{on}, y en los ordenes del rey mi señor, y assi suplicamos a V. S. lo represente a su A. a. fin que sin ulterior dilacion se sirva de mandar se nos de la respuesta que mas fuere servido, de que quedaremos muy obligados a servir a V. S. cuya persona g^{de} Dios muchos años, como deseamos de Casa. Vol. xxvi. P. 376.

a { 6 de Junio, }
27 de Mayo, } 1655.

Muy fervidores de V. S.

El marques de Lede.

Don Alonso de Cardenas.

An intercepted letter.

SIR,

I WROTE to you the last post; since which wee have it here, that for certaine the peace twixt England and France is quit off, and the Spaniard taken into friendship, which possibly may make an alteration in your designe for your nephewe's traavailes, as it has in part much with us for our desires that way. I pray send me word by the first, in case that treaty be broken, what your resolutions are, and where you intend his first residence in France, that if it may be, I may make use of the curtesy you offer; when he shall begin his traavailes, and the governour's name, and what of the conditions you shall thinke fitt to confesse. All our services to all with you. I am Vol. xxvi. P. 386.

June 6. ft. nov. 1655.

Yours.

Pray bestow your answer with the first.

The superscription,

For William Coventrye, esq; to be left att mr.

John Collins his chamber in the Inner Temple
in Hare Court, London.

A letter of intelligence.

Rome, June 7, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

THE letters are come, but I have not received yours; this night I shall. All the letters are come to cardinal Albifio. For news from hence this week, state affairs are in the same posture. The pope goes with leaden feet, but will really labour for a general peace; of which there is no more said yet than what you had in my former letters. The courier from Madrid is not yet returned. Vol. xxvii. P. 479.

His holiness received very ill news, that monsieur count de Broglio was expected at Modena with French troops and monies, and had high words with cardinal de Este and monsieur Lionne, saying such business would produce no good, but bring new obstacles against the general peace; so that Modena goes on still, notwithstanding his holiness's resentment.

A. D. 1655. *sentment.* Cardinal Truulfo is going to Milan, to assist the counsellors of marquis de Caracena, as also for his particular affairs. Cardinal Antonio Barberini upon a second resolution parted to go to the court of France, and to that end the commonwealth of Genoa sent to him a galley to Civita Vecchia, that shall transport his eminency as far as Toulon. The pope has most earnestly recommended to him to be assistant for the general peace; and he has instructions for it at large. After all was said, it is found necessary, that at least one of the pope's nephews shall be called to court to assist his holiness; and 'tis thought soon he will be here; but the pope gave orders to three cardinals to consider what revenue in conscience a pope ought to give to his nephew: he shall not want be sure of it.

In the consistory that was this day se'nnight, the pope created the archbishop of Corinth the coadjutor to the archbishop of Tarantese; and in the end of that consistory the pope gave the title of cardinal to cardinal de Retz, who is very well in favour with his holiness.

Cardinal de Medicis was ready to depart for Florence; but being fallen into his ordinary indisposition of the gout, has deferred his voyage, and sent away the two gallees come for him to Civita Vecchia, but with orders to return within fifteen days. Monsieur Cajetano is in his journey from Spain to Rome, and monsieur de Massimi is in his journey to Madrid to be nuncio in his place.

Cardinal of Harach and Hesse are to depart very soon. Yesterday as yearly accustomed by the pope to give dowries to distressed virgins, this pope provided for four hundred. Yesterday two Jews were baptized here with much ceremony, cardinal Astalli was their godfather.

The letters of Naples bring, that all the goods of those of Genoa seized upon in this kingdom are now sent from thence, according to the late treaty made with the king of France; also that they have shipped in Naples into nine gallees two regiments of foot to be sent to Finale, and from thence to Milan, and five other regiments of Spaniards, which passing by shall be left in the garrisons of Tuscany. Of general Blake we hear nothing lately, but we most long to hear what design the great fleet with general Venables has. Here are no other news; so I must end at present,

Sir, yours.

Paris, June 7, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 369.

I HAVE not much since my former of news. The Hugonots, that were defeated by the troops of the duke of Savoy in the Vallies of Lucerne and St. Martin, fled away to Geneva, to Switzerland, part also to Dauphiné; but having correspondencies together, sent hither two deputies, of which one was a minister, who came to their brethren of the religion, and openly to the minister called Drelincourt, to whom he recounted all that passed betwixt themselves and the catholicks, which was the most part of the discourse of the said Drelincourt last Sunday preaching at Charenton; and Monday following had an assembly in Paris of those of his own religion, of whom he desired assistance and protection for their banished brethren. Also they resolved to have it spoken of in court by mr. de Ruvigni their deputy general; and in the mean time to raise among themselves great contributions for their aforesaid brethren in this their extremity.

Madam Martinozzi parted from Compiègne the first of this month, and arrived here last Wednesday in the evening, where she was unknown, without speaking to any man, till she parted yesterday for Modena, accompanied with the count and countess de Noailles. His eminence has given her with her husband 900,000 livres, of which 600,000 in hand, and the rest he is obliged to pay her within six months.

Madam Martinozzi her mother is gone with her as far as Marfeilles, and from thence she will to Rome, finding not this air good for her health.

The cardinal writ a letter to the marquis Palavicino, resident of Genoa, that he might be pleased to write to his commonwealth to send two gallees to Marfeilles to convey his niece to Modena, which the said resident did, and sent an express with the letter a purpose.

In the treaty at Compiègne they called the duke of Modena high and powerful seigneur.

It is written from Rennes in Bretagne, that mr. de Meilleraye was expected there, as also his son mr. Grand Maistre, who is to take possession of the survivance of the government of his father, before they go to the states of Vitray.

The cardinal sent mr. Bravessi an Italian to compliment his holiness. The king sent an express to cardinal Antonio, desiring him to stay in Rome, and not come to France, as he pretended.

Madam

Madam la comtesse de Bossu quitted Mommare, and is retired to Charrone, where she expects a passport to return to Flanders. A. D. 1655.

The court is yet at Compiègne, and next monday will part either for Amiens or la Ferre. By the next you may hear more of them. The Hugonots here are printing what passed betwixt themselves and the catholicks at Vallées de Lucerne and St. Martin; when it's printed, you may have it.

Our army is marching towards Landrecy, which may be is to give the enemies a false alarm, and turn another way afterwards. I have nothing more to acquaint you of, only that I am not well. However, I am,

Sir, your most faithful servant,

An intercepted letter, design'd for Paris.

Londre May 28^{me} 55. ft. vieux.

MONSIEUR,

IL y a quinze jours que je vous escris l'effect de nostre premiere operation, en quoy nous ne reussimes pas, mais au contraire nous perdimes beaucoup de * ce qui me fait souffrir mille inquietudes. Je vous supplia par ma derniere de nous voir a Londres, pour nous fait scavoir nostre erreur & le corriger. Ne tardes pas, je vous prie, si vous m'aimez, de venir ici, pour m'oster de cette grande distraction, qui m'affligé a present, & m'affligera jusque a ce que je vous verray. Je m'estonne aussi, que je n'ay pas encore receu aucune responce a ma derniere pour tesmoigner vostre dessein de nous voir a Londres. Monsieur, je n'ay rien plus que de vous dire encore, que je vous attend avec impatience, & monsieur St. aussi, qui est a cette heure a Londres. Adieu. Je suis, monsieur,

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

Vostre tres humble et tres affectionné serviteur,

T. H.

Faites mes baïses mains a monsieur Ch. Fo: & monsieur Le Feb.

Il faut demander les couteaux & le tabac de monsieur Humfres, un Anglois, qui demeure a la prochaine porte des Filles Angloise hors de la porte St. Marceau.

C'est madam Fenwicke, qui lui les a données: ils font adressées a vous.

A monsieur

Monsieur Farettes, a la rue de Grenell,
a la prochaine porte de monsieur
Moreau, brasseur aux fauxbourghs
St. Germain, à Paris.

Information against mr. Rogers.

May 28. At Thomas Apostles.

In his prayer these and such like passages:

Hasten the time, when al absolute power shal be devolved into the hand of Christ; when we shal have no lord protector but our Lord Jesus, the onely true protector and defender of the faith. Let our faith have so much of the graine of mustard-seed, as to say to that great mountain, be removed, and it shal be removed. Vol. xlv. P. 21.

Look in mercy upon thy saints att Windsor, that are imprisoned for the truth and the testimony of Jesus: be thou their freedome and enlargement, &c.

Remember thy handmaid, who is brought to town, and threatned by the worldly powers, who crucify Christ Jesus in the spirit every day. Heare the blasphemies of the court, and regard their ridiculous pomp and vanity. And now Christ Jesus is proclaimed kinge, pour forth thy vials upon the worldly powers, the powers of Antichrist.

Then he blessed God, that had yet reserved himself a remnant, who had not bowed their knees to Baal.

He named his text out of the vth chap. of the letter of Matthew, 25th v. *Agree with thine adversary quickly*, By the *adversary*, he said, was meant Christ, whome the apostate professors and wicked ones of this world had made their adversary. And soe made this his doctrine: 'Tis the concernment of al adulterous apostate professors to make a speedy agreement with their adversary. And because the kingly office of Christ was att this present time most eminently opposed, he would speak to the present powers, who are the opposers of it in their government, in their priesthood, in their armies.

The apostate professors of this age have openly broken al God's commandments, as I shal shew in their order.

I. To

A. D. 1655. 1. To the first. *I am the Lord thy God, that brought thee out of Egypt; thou shalt have no other Gods but me.* But as Israel of old made themselves calves, and said, *Lo these are our gods, which brought us out of Egypt;* so the men of this generation say, lo this and lo that; lo our strength, and lo our armies, have brought us out of bondage from under monarchical government, &c.

2. *Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image.* But the present powers have set up graven images, that is to say, the works of men's imaginations. They have lately set up Triers att Whitehal, a new set of doctors, worshippers of the inventions of man: a new commission court, to give out tickets, and seals, and instruments, and picklocks, to open houses, and pulpits, and pigsties, and henroosts, to fetch thence eggs, and geese, and pigs, and tithes: a most sottish and ridiculous foppery, nay meer idolatry. 'Tis an horrible sin in any to own them, or receive commission from them. The last parliament would have proved a reformer, and have pulled down this image; but that the powers of this world interposed. And I beleeve one day they must give a sad account for it. If any have received such commission from them, let them return it, and quickly agree with the adversary.

3. *Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.* But the men in present power have eminently taken God's name in vain, by applying his attributes to sinister ends. Their pretensions were for the honour of God, for the interest of Christ; what more frequent in their mouthes? Wel, God took them att their words, gave them many a victory in trust, to see what they would doe with it, after so many promises and pretences. But at last, what God gave them onely in trust, for the advancement of his glory, they have purloined and abused to the advancement of themselves, breaking al oaths, promises, covenants, engagements, declarations. When they goe to fight another battle, they cannot give that for a word any more, *No king but Jesus;* a word, which won them more then their swords. No, they have set up now a king of their own.

4. *Remember thou keep holy the sabbath.* They are guilty of the breach of this comandment, who doe their own works. Those who have no soul-rest cannot keep a sabbath. Such are they that gape after court-honour, priviledges, preferments, advantages.

5. *Honour thy father and thy mother.* To obey the world before God, makes us guilty of this commandment. God wil say to the men of this generation, go to your governour, go to your protector. *If I be a father, where is my honour?*

6. *Thou shalt do no murder.* There is a heart-murder; those that hate the spirit in the faines, are murderers. Those who have it in their intent and desire to murder the faines, though for some respects of their own, they refrain from the outward act, they are murderers before God. Some in the present power are guilty of this murderous intent. Before, nothing but the laws of Christ and the interest of Christ; but now 'tis a particular and personal interest, the interest of a man, the caus of a man. Those, who were slain for the caus of Christ, their blood cries aloud, let Christ reign; but those, who say, let us reign, make themselves guilty of that blood, and so are murderers.

Then he converted his discours against spies and talebearers, recounting out of the book of martyrs and other stories God's remarkable judgments against them.

7. *Thou shalt not commit adultery.* There is a heart-adultery, as Christ also expounds it. He that looks upon pleasures, and honours, and profits, and lusts after them, this lust of the heart is adultery. The present powers have committed adultery with al interests, with the cavaleer party, with the army, with the clergy.

8. *Thou shalt not steale.* They are thieves and robbers, which take away violently that which is not their right, that which does not belong to them. We have great thieves and rich thieves, army thieves and clergy thieves. A poor pirate was brought before Alexander the Great, for robbing; and being demanded the reason, the pirate answered him, this is the sole difference 'twixt you and me; you are the great thief, and I am but the little one. Doe violence to no man, said John the Baptist to the souldiers; but our souldiers doe violence to all men. What right have those men in the throne to it? The cavaleer party wil say, Charles Stuart has a right; but I say, there's no man breathing has more right to it than the meanest child that walks the streets; the kingdome is the Lord's and his Christ's. They which detaine what they have unjustly taken, are thieves. Why doe they not make restitution of their stolne powers, their stolne thrones and dignities? restore them to the faines, whome they despised and cast out, under the name of silt monarchy men. They that make unlawfull hast to be rich are thieves and robbers. (Then he directed his speech to my lord protector.) Certainly he is in a desperate condition. No wonder we heare so much of plots, two or three already; though, for my part, 'tis the desire of my soul, that he may not be taken of by any of them, but rather that he may repent, and God recover him again to himself. Becaus he hath oppressed and forsaken the poor, becaus he hath violently taken away a house, which he builded not, surely he shal not feel quietnes in his belly, he shal not save of that which he desired. Job xx. 19.

O thou

O thou black Whitehal! thou black Whitehal! fah, fah, it stinks of the brimstone of A. D. 1659. Sodom, and the smoke of the bottomless pit. The flying roule of God's curses shall overtake the family of that great thief there; he that rob'd us of the benefit of our prayers, of our tears, of our blood, the blood of my poor husband, will the widow say, the blood of my poor father, will the orphan say, the blood of my dear friend, will many say. They shed their blood for the cause of Jesus Christ, and for the interest of his kingdom; but that which they purchased at so deare a rate, is taken from us by violence: we are rob'd of it, and the cause of Christ is made the cause of a man.

He would have proceeded to the two other commandments, but that time prevented him.

At the conclusion of his discourse, he produced a letter from Mr. Feak at Windsor, giving a large account of what betided him there; how he had preached to some soldiers of the guard, and that they were much affected with what he spake; how he was remanded to his chamber by the governour, and a long dialogue betwixt them on that occasion. At which he distinctly read to the people, being a very numerous assembly. And thus closed all: in sum, my dear friends, you may shortly expect a new book of martyrs; the saints are worse dealt with by the powers of this age, than they were by the Heathens of old. Paul was suffered to preach at Rome; but they now are forbid to preach the gospel.

Afterwards a hymn was set, composed for the occasion; which the people sung very affectionately. It began thus: Come, glorious king of Zion, come to defend thy cause against all earthly powers, and to work deliverance for thy captives; and much to that purpose.

A letter to the protector concerning Mr. Rogers.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

HAVING for these 5 or 6 years had more opportunities to read Mr. Rogers than Vol. xlviii. many others, I humbly conceive it not altogether improper (especially at this time) P. 25. to give your highness as true a character of him, as his actions and my slender observations thereupon hath led me to; which I the rather presume to acquaint your highness with, because as a man is not easily knowne to himself, so least of all to those from whom he is most remote: for as a king at chess stands upon his guard, so man brideth and contracts himself; feare, shame, and other passions makes him, when abroad, act that parte which is commonly seene; but to knowe a man truly, one must look into his inner parte, his privy chamber, and there not how to day, but every day he carries himself; for a man is oft different in his house from what he is abroad in the palace or market place; another person amongst his domesticall friends from that he is amongst strangers. When man goeth out of his house into Westminster Hall, or any publick place, he goeth as one to act a comedy. Therefore if I would give any judgment of a man, I would not look on him there, for it is not he that playeth, but another man. Now that your highness may know Mr. Rogers of Thomas Apostle's from that man, which he describes, and would have others to thinke him to be by his booke called *a Tabernacle*, I shall in as few words as I can discover more of the man then the Christian in him, that so your highness may in some measure discern him from some others, and that before the change of government, against which Mr. Rogers with a pretended zeale of God hath so furiously appeared.

About 6 years since Mr. Rogers married Sir Robert Paine's daughter late of Huntingtonshire, who was the relict of Mr. Smyth of St. Neots; wherefor some time he taught schoole, and from whence by providence he was called to a living at Purleigh in Essex, worth, as I have byn informed, above 200l. *per ann.* where the people, as in many other places, being but children in understanding, and such as I have heard him say, did not know how to value men for their abilities, the said Mr. Rogers (I fear overprizing his gifts) did thereupon turne non-resident; and hyring another to supply his place at Purleigh, he came to London, and endeavouring to gett a lecture, which in short time he obteyned at Thomas Apostle's, thus neglecting his charge at Purleigh about 33 myles off London, it pleased God to stir up the patron and parish against him, so that he was ejected thence.

Mr. Rogers hereat being exceedingly troubled, petitioned the lords commissioners for a restoration; from whom not obteyning his desires, and meeting therein with opposition from serjeant Maynard, he thereupon as incensed against lawyers, writt a pamphlett; and how he vented his spirit in that quarrell, I presume your highness is not only a stranger to.

After the loss of Purleigh, Mr. Rogers solicited hard for the rectory of Martyn's in the fields; and to that end endeavoured the removing of one Mr. Sangar, a godly man, and being askt why he would doe so, he replied, that Mr. Sangar had a living of 100l. a

A. D. 1655. year in the country, forgetting that it was lately his own case in Purleigh, when yet he had a lecture in London, and lived here. But not seeking a way of God, his endeavours heere also proved abortive.

Whereupon mr. Rogers puts forth a book, called *a Tabernacle for the Sunn*, and according to the dedication of it presents one to your highnesse, not doubting but that this book would have attracted your highnesse especiall favour to him; but the Lord (who weighs the spirits, and ponders all men's goings) did, for ought I know, cause your highnesse to see more of mr. Rogers then he could of himselfe. Whether a disappointment herein hath not byn a ground of mr. Rogers his discontent (that I say not malice) I will not positively affirm, yet fear (as the Apostle speaks of a young novice) that he hath byn lifted up of pryde, and fallen into the condemnation of the devill. For, saith the same Apostle, *The servant of the Lord must not strive, but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient in meeknes, instructing those that oppose themselves, &c.* My lord, I could say much more, but am unwilling to trouble your highnesse: only I beseech your highnesse to permit me to speake my heart in one thing, which is this, viz. That if your highnesse should studdy to please mr. Rogers, you cannot doe it in a more dyrect lyne then by imprysoning of him; not that I believe he hath any principle, wherewithall truly to glory before God, nor doth he simply delight in being restreyned; but, my lord, by this meanes he gets great store of mony, having many vissitants, and some of quallity. Wherefore, my lord, I humbly submit it to your highnesse consideration, whether after a sober and sharpp reproofe, it would not be well to give him his liberty; for, my lord, in reallity and trueth his designe is not for the fifth monarchy, but how to gett mony. And to that end he hath for above theise two yeares given it out, that it hath been stronge uppon his heart, that he shall dye a martyr, though I feare none of those, whom Christ hath as yet owned. And therefore what other comfort he hath by imprysonment then getting money, I understand not; for certeyne it is, he acts not in the spirit of Jesus; and being not conformable to Christ in his death and sufferings, surely the spirit of glory nor of God doth not rest uppon him. Wherefore, my lord, I beseech you consider, whether it would not be best yet a little longer by gentlenesse and meeknesse to heap up coales of fyre upon his head; and if he turn not at such a reproof, which God usually takes upp to reduce synners, then certeynly the Lord hath not called your highnesse to bear the sword in vaine; and yet if he persist in the forwardnesse of his heart, I hope when the parliament sitts, they will call him to an account; which I confesse I had rather they should doe, then your highnesse, of whose uprightness I hope the Lord will bear further witnesse to notwithstanding all gainefayers.

I desired to know of mr. secretary, whether all commers might be admitted to mr. Rogers, who told me, that he had no dyrections at all therein. The last Lord's day I am informed, that there was at the least a hundred persons, that went to see him; neither can I restreine them, untill your highnesse's pleasure be knowne herein.

Vol. xxvi.
p. 408.

OLIVER lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging, to our right trusty and well beloved major general John Disbrowe, greeting. We reposing special trust and confidence in your fidelity, discretion, courage, experience, and conduct in military affairs, do hereby constitute and appoint you the said major general Disbrowe to be major general of all the militia forces raised and to be raised within the counties of Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Wilts, and Gloucester; which said forces you are by virtue of this commission to receive into your charge as major general, and the same to train and exercise in arms, and to command, lead, and conduct for the service of us and the commonwealth, keeping them in good order and discipline. And all officers and soldiers of the said forces are hereby required to obey you as their major general for the said service. And you are to observe and follow such directions as you shall from time to time receive from ourself. Given at Whitehal the 28th day of May 1655.

Sign'd OLIVER P.

Mr. John Aldworth to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 410.

MY last unto you was of the 10th currant, which hope you have received with severall others, that I sent under cover of mr. Manley post master, in regard I had no direction of mr. Hartleb's habitation, which now knowing, I shall for the future observe your commands in adressing my letters to him. Since my last the duke Merckure is returned

returned to Thollon with his 6 ships, having succored Roza, and taken the castle or fort off Cape de Quies, a thinge of small consequence, yett they lost above 400 in taking it: the gallys not yett returned, only one, whose mast was shott doune by the castle, and 3 ships very much battered also. The admirall Vandoisme his father is att Thollon, establishing his officers on the ships, and will be heare in 5 dayes. Hee fitts up the fleete with all dellegence possible, but they may not bee ready under 5 weeks att least. Thear is noe likelyhood, that any ships are to come from Portugal to joyne with them. The fleete may consist in about 18 ships, and 7 or 8 gallys att most. There designe is not yett fully knowne, but generally suposed, either for Barcelona or Naples; it is most probable for Barcelona, in regard already is entred into Cattalonia 10,000 soldiers, whereof 5000 horse, and more horse followes, and as yett thear is not any army drawing towards the fleete; although heare is late advise, that a new rumor is in Naples, and that the vice-king hath beene forc't to retire, but thear is noe certainty theareof. Last night a barke of this place arrived from Mayorke, who brings advise, that general Blake with his fleete was about Iversey, and that 3 of his frigatts neare Mayorke had taken 2 Hamburgers and a Dutch ship, that came hence loden with severall sorts of comodities: one of the Hamburgers was bound for Hamborough, the other for Roan in France, and the Fleming for Adlecant; said ship with the other bound for Hambrough was lett free, but they detain the other that was bound for Roan, with a small French frigatt, that was in there company, who also landed here and was bound for Lisbone.

In my last I gave you notice the admirall Vandoisme had releas'd English ships in those parts; but 2 dayes after hee contradicted the said order, so that our ships remaynes in the same condition, to the greate prejudice of our nation, in regard they are laden with perishable comodities. As soon as hee arrives heare, I shall repayre againe to him for theare releasment; butt by all circumstances nothing wil be done, untill they see a certainty of a peace with our states, such delayes are used. The English ship I gave you notice of in my last, that was taken by the French gallys, is brought into Thollon. She was taken under the French flagg, pretending belonged to France; notwithstanding thear is as little probability, and rather less of her releasment, then if had beene taken under the English flagg. So for present doe humbly take leave, and remayne

Your honnor's servant,

Marfeillia, June 8, 1655. [N. S.]

JO. ALDWORTH.

An intercepted letter of Edward Backster to mr. John Appleton, at mr. Barber's house, over-against the Vine-Tavern, in Holborne.

Cologne, June 8, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

YOURS of the 30th of April came not to my hands till within these two days; Vol. xxvi. p. 387. otherwise you had not been so long without an answer, for I do exceedingly desire your correspondence, and write now only to be informed, whether this comes safe to your hands; and then you shall hear more particular from me, with reference to yourself, and to the lady, whom you may assure, that the monsieur is as passionately in love with her ladyship as ever, and exceedingly troubled the present he intended her was not delivered, the reason whereof he doth not understand, having received no account from the person he entrusted. I have not heard from your partner these many months. I pray remember me very kindly to the Cheapside merchant, whose judgment I would be glad to receive. All possible care shall be taken to supply you with a parcel of Segovia wool, as soon as I hear from you again. Let your letters be directed to monsieur Edward Backster, at Antwerpe.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg, to secretary Thurloe.

HONORABLE SIR,

I AM now with yours of the 18th present, which speaks you neare a conclusion with Vol. xxvi. p. 440. the French. If their ambassador and armie had a hand in the late horrid proceedings against the poor protestants in Savoy, I hope wee shall not league with them.

I am sorie to hear, that such eminent men could soe forget themselves, as to merit the tower; but I presume ere this they seene their error and submitted.

I perceive the publique affaires will not permit the consideration of any thing, that doth not immediately relate to safetie. If before midsomer nothinge can be done in my

A. D. 1655.

my busines, I am well assured to perceive a further affront from Townley and his partie, if I doe not then lay downe of my selfe. My request is, that in case nothing can be done ere then, that yow will please to give me your advice before that tyme, whether I should lay downe the place of deputy (which yet would answer their aymes and desires) or leave them to their owne procedure; that if that partie doe prevent me (as I am very confident they will, if a check come not before the election day) they may be the more inexcuseable, though I sit downe with the greater affront. And truly to continue with them, except some course be taken to vindicate me for what's past, I shall not desire it for any advantage the place brings with it.

The Swedes forces are now removeinge hence towards their general randevvous. The cittie of Danzick seemes not to feare them soe much as at first they did.

The inclosed paper presents you with what further occurred since my last. I shall not give you further trouble, but subscribe myself,

Sir, your very humble servant,

Hamb. May 29, 1655.

RICHARD BRADSHAW.

I desire to know, if when the mast-ship returnes from you, I shall cause her reload with the remaynder of the masts bought, and cause soe many more great ones to be bought, from 20 to 26 almes, as may compleate her loadinge, as I writ you by the shipp.

General Monck to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 412.

BEING informed, that one James Browne, a Scotchman (who hath a greate plantation in the Barbadoes, and is either deputy governor, or commands a regiment there) is the person, that discharges most of the prisoners, that are sent thither (and those the veryest rogues) I thought fitt to give you notice of itt, and desire you will please to acquaint his highnesse therewith, that some course may bee taken therein. There are amongst others one lieutenant Purdie, George Windram, and lieutenant Robert Hamilton, who were notorious mossers, lately sent back from the Barbadoes; and (as I am told) lodge att the signe of the three Horse-shoes on the back-side of the Round Court neere Covent-Garden. Itt were good, they were apprehended, and examined, how they came away, and what their businesse is att London. Heere is nothing of newes, all being quiett; and I doubt nott butt itt will continue soe, soe longe as things are peaceable in England. I desire you will pardon my giving you this trouble amongst the multitude of your affaires, butt itt could nott otherwise bee done without your care. I remayne

Dalkeith, May 29, 1655.

Your loving freind and servant,

GEORGE MONCK.

Dr. J. Owen to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 413.

YOU were pleased at my comeinge out of towne, to speake with me about my worthy neighbour mr. Unton Croke, and to consider the charecter, which upon knowledge and consideration with respect to what was in your thoughts about him, I then gave. I have not since seene, or spoken with that gentleman, but my knowledge of his worth, and integrity, and repute in his countrey is such, that I cannot but assume the boldnesse to give my testimony concerninge him, knowinge that it is a businesse, wherein I would not, for respect to any person in England, be the least occasion of a mistake unto his highnesse. Pray excuse this boldnes in,

Christ Ch. College,
May 29, [1655.]

Sir, your most humble

and most affectionat servant,

JOHN OWEN.

A letter

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, June 9, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

SINCE my former we have but little of news here ; only it is confirmed from Rome, A. D. 1655. that in the last consistory, and in the other before it, cardinal de Este presented two or three supplications in the behalf of Abbé de la Riviere, to give him a brevet of the bishoprick of Langres, which you know he was refused ; but upon this last application cardinal de Este made for him, the pope writ only in the latter end of it thus, *Tollat Symoniam, et mutet mores*, which was all the answer he gott. It is written from the frontiers of Flanders, that mr. de Bouteville was killed in a party in the county of Henault, but yet there is no certainty of it.

The king parted from Compiègne last monday, and the cardinal the day before, and went to Noyon, and are now at la Fere ; but the reason the cardinal went before was to confer with mr. de Turenne, to begin some great siege, which is thought will be Cambray. In the mean time they sent into Quesnoy a great convoy lately 3000 sacks, of meal, and many other provisions, in a manner that there is there provision for a whole year. The said convoy was conducted by mr. Clainvilliers lieutenant general of mr. Turenne's army ; and a little before that convoy entered, mr. de Beauneau, governor of Quesnoy, commanded out of the town a party of horse and foot, which brought with them into the town out of the enemy's countries 150 horses, and above 200 cows, and ours left in the place of the men, that conducted the said convoys, 120 horses to run over the countries.

The prince of Condé fearing ours should attempt Rocroy, augmented the garrison to 3000 men.

Mr. Teller, secretary of state, arrived here from court last monday, to confer with the surintendants *des finances*, to furnish mr. de Turenne with the monies, that shall be necessary for the siege he is to undertake very soon.

Monday in the afternoon the princess of Modena was complimented by the provost de marchands and the citizens of this town, as they received orders from the king to do her that honour, and give her the ordinary presents, as two dozen of boxes of confits, as many bottles of hypocras, and two dozen of torches, for which she gave them thanks, and offered service in any occasion.

Sunday last the jubile is come to my lord nuncio from this new pope ; but seeing the bishops and archbishops are not here, but some in court and elsewhere, it is thought it will not be given out so soon.

The abbot de la Rouquette arrived here last tuesday, and yesterday from Catalonia, being sent by the prince of Conti with the news, that he has taken a place called Cape de Query, being surrendered upon composition, having defended themselves very gallantly before they yielded. The composition being thus ; the soldiers were to be prisoners of war, as also their officers. We bought the place dear enough, many of ours being killed and wounded, and of quality ; among which wounded mr. de Bellefont lieutenant general, mr. de Bougy lieutenant of the cavalry, and mr. de Hargoufes, who commanded the chevaux legers of prince Conti, having the soldiers all broken ; and it was remarked in the attempt, that prince Conti marching in the suburbs, laying his hand upon one called de Laurier, that the said de Laurier was killed before the prince took off his hand from his shoulders. The particulars of that business we expect yet, this abbot being the first that came from thence.

The duke de Espernon parted hence yesterday for Guienne, to visit his houses in that province, though yet he expects not the government of it.

Princess de Carignan gave a gallant supper last sunday to the princess of Modena, and besides honoured her with the right hand.

We have from Charlemont upon the river of Meuse, and in the pais of Luxemburg, that mr. Allemany being sent thither by the archduke to take care of the place jointly with the governor, that the governor presently thinking the said Allemany to be sent expressly to seize upon his person, upon pretence of going to mass, retired himself to the pais of Leige. Some say the governor sold the place to the French, though he had not time to deliver it, and to receive his monies for it.

They write hither certainly from London, that our peace with you is concluded and agreed wholly, but not yet signed, which you know best there.

Of your fleets at sea we hear nothing ; neither have I any thing at present, but that I am, as you know,

Sir, your most real servant.

A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.

Turin, June 9, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
 Vol. xxvi.
 P. 420.

THE count de Broglio hath brought from France one hundred thousand crowns, to give unto the duke of Modena, to be employed about the expences of his army. The said count doth daily expect the return of a post he hath sent to the court of France for business, which could not be before discovered.

Prince Rupert Palatin is expected here with the two German regiments he hath raised for the duke of Modena. The French army is already descended into Piedmont. It is thought it will be of ten thousand men, and that it will be in the field the twentieth of this month. In the interim the marquis Ville, general of their highness's horse, hath advanced towards None in the Milanese. Last saturday some of his highness's troops were sent towards Lucerne, where those of the reformed religion having on friday night broke the bridge of the little river Peleze, whilst the guards were sleeping, and won the baricadoes, they made irruption into the place; but the catholicks being awakened timely enough, had time to put themselves in a defensive posture, and repulsed the Hugonots; but forty of ours were killed, but very few protestants, which receive great relief from Geneva, from whence there hath been sent them about 2000 pistoles, and they have also received as much from the canton of Berne in Switzerland. The Hugonots of Dauphiné send them the like relief with an exceeding great zeal, there having been some particular men, who have given one hundred pistoles. They punctually pay a crown a week to every single soldier, and a pistole to each captain. It is said, that two kinsmen of the family Montbrun are come to their relief. When they were at St. Seconde, as you have heard, they fired the house, which was there, and killed 40 missionary priests, only one of them having escaped named father Aubert, who having cast himself out of a window, run amongst the papists to confess those which were dying; and after he had received two musket shots, and been made prisoner, the Hugonots rendered him, after several instances to them made by the missionary of Pignerol, and he is now here.

The deputies of the canton of Berne have been towards the rebels Hugonots, which have answered them highly, that they would have no agreement. Whereupon these deputies are returned *re infecta*, after they had demanded of marquis Pianezze a relation of all that hath been done in the Vallies, which hath been granted them.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, June 9, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
 P. 425.

I Understand what happened in Lucerne is as well the subject of the common discourse in England as in France: it is hard to send a relation clear from passion, where both the parties pretend so great an interest, yet I present this that appears most authentick.

The duke of Savoy granted to his protestant subjects liberty of conscience, and a free exercise of religion; yet reserved to himself a full power of sending catholick preachers into that district possessed by the protestants. Some Capuchins under the warrant of that article went thither, and were cut in pieces by the contrary faction. It is reported, what exasperated the protestants was the conversion of a minister, who lost almost at the same time his life and his religion. The duke by dissembling so publick an injury would either have seemed to approve the fact, or to have wanted a power to have punished it. Some forces were sent to revenge the publick violation of the treaty.

The protestants were already in a body not to recant but to maintain the action. The duke was victorious, and pretends to have punished nothing but rebellion, as the protestants urged they fought only for religion. Whether the duke erred in the supposed justice of his cause, I know not; yet it is not improbable there might be some fault in the execution. The excess of violence is natural to the sword.

The army here hath not yet done any thing, they are drawn towards the frontiers of Flanders.

*A letter of intelligence from mr. Petit.*Paris the $\frac{9}{30}$ June, } 1655.
May,

SIR,

THE cardinal parted saturday from Compiègne for la Fere. Their majesties followed him the next day in the afternoon, lay that night at Loyon, and arrived at la Fere on monday, when the mareschal of Turenne (who hath cast a second convoy into Quesnoy) is to render himself with mr. Faber to hold a council of war, and to confer with his eminency. Some say the king will go to Soissons, others say to Spain; but I think it depends of the place, which shall be assaulted. The court is jealous of mr. de Montdejeu governor of Arras.

The enemies have placed all their foot soldiers in the garrisons, and divided their horse in three bodies; whereof the chiefest is towards St. Amand.

The princess of Modena is to part within a day or two to go find the prince of Modena, mr. de Noailles and his lady being to usher her thither. The gentlemen of this town-house were on monday to salute and compliment the said princess, as also to present her with the usual gifts of the city on such an occasion, which are sweat meets, hypocras, and white wax torches. They had received order to do it by a letter de cachet from the king.

Prince Rupert makes levies in Germany for the duke of Modena, having to that purpose received great sums of money.

It is written from Cologne, that the elector had conferred with the elector of Treves and Mentz, and some other princes of the empire about the Spanish armada, whose naval army, composed of about eighty ships, is to set sail about the beginning of this month. This army giveth a great alarm to all Germany, and causeth the beholding of all Christendom to see where it will fall. Some think it will be against Dantzick, others that it is against the duke of Newburgh; but time will inform us thereof. Some informations mention the death of prince Charles, brother to the king of Poland.

There arrived monday a post from Catalonia, who passed by Paris to go to Compiègne. He bringeth the news of the taking of Quadaguers by the prince of Conti, who had besieged it by land, and the duke of Mercœur by sea. It hath been taken by assault; mr. Bellefont hath been wounded in this occasion; Roses is secured by this prize.

It is said we had some intelligences in Charlemont, which hath been discovered, and that the commander of that place hath saved himself.

The Spaniards thinking to draw four or five thousand men from the French court, prince of Condé had written into the said country, that he would send six or seven thousand horse to escort them. But this their hope hath failed them, being the Franche-comtois have renewed their alliance with the French, yea paid their contributions.

Our other news from Germany inform us, that the king of Swedeland hath given to understand, that he had nothing to say unto the king of Denmark, nor to the princes of Germany; and that the marquis of Brandenburg, with the advice of mr. de Lombre, delegated from France, doth offer passage unto the said king to follow the designs of Gustavus, and hinder the empire from being hereditary in the house of Austria. It is said, the said king entreateth queen Christina his cousin to return into Swedeland; but what will be her answer is yet unknown.

Advices are come from Pignerol in date of the $\frac{22}{12}$ May, that the governor of that place hath given to understand unto the king by an express the inconveniences for his majesty caused by the massacres committed to the Vallies of Lucerne, St. Martin, Angrogne, &c. by reason that the marquis of St. Damien, son-in-law to marquis of Pianezze a Piedmontese, after he had caused the people of the said Vallies to be massacred, had anew with his banditti thought to surprize the Vallies of Pregela, thinking to put the said banditti therein, which would have been a means for them to render themselves masters of the said Pignerol, the said banditti being wholly Spaniards and enemies of the French, the said governor having thereupon intreated his majesty to take heed, that which is past being an affair of state more than a business of religion. The marquis having given the alarm unto the neighbouring people of the Vallies, they put themselves under arms, and gave chase to him and his, which were sharply charged by captain Jayx.

To mr. Bye.

Hague, June 9, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvi.
P. 424.

THE barbarous massacre of the poor Vaudois in the Valley of Piedmont is very much taken to heart here both by the ecclesiastical and temporal government.

The states of Holland are now met together, and are busy about annulling the ordinance for safe conduct money, in regard it doth too much prejudice the commerce; likewise to send troops with sixteen men of war to convoy the merchant men to and again in the East sea. They do likewise treat with the envoy of Brandenburg for the making of a defensive alliance, which it is thought will be suddenly finished. Sweden doth very much fear the power of the Muscovites. The differences between Poland and Sweden may yet end in an accommodation. The differences in the provinces of Groningen are as good as accommodated, but those in Overijssel do still continue.

Vienna, May 30. S. V. [1655.]

Vol. xxvi.
p. 207.

THE coronation of prince Leopold Ignatius is suspended for some time, by reason of some special grievances, wherewith the states of Hungaria are not as yet fully satisfied. The emperor hath been somewhat ill of late, and forced to be let blood; but notwithstanding this his majesty's indisposition, he hath renewed his commands touching the strict prosecution of the appointed armature, for the defence of the empire *in omnem eventum*, insomuch that within a short time we hope to see a considerable body brought together.

Extract out of the secret revolutions of the lords states of Holland. Taken in their assembly upon the 8th and 10th of June, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxvi.
p. 426.

THE rael pensionary having communicated to the assembly a certain letter, writ to him by the lord Nieuport extraordinary ambassador for this state in England, bearing date the 4th of this month, containing amongst the rest, that he the said lord ambassador was informed that the Heer Coyet, envoy of the king of Sweden, had desired of the lord protector of England, Scotland, and Ireland, in his last audience, that he said Coyet might have leave given him to make a levy of 6000 Scots; and that the same being considerable, it was thought for several respects would not be granted; whereupon being debated, it was resolved, that a letter be sent to the lord Nieuport, to know the reasons and ground upon which the said levies should be desired by the said lord Coyet.

HERB. VAN. BEAUMONT.

Sir John Henderson to secretary Thurloe.

RYGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 439.

ATT my cumming to Hamburg, I concluded all accounts of any monyes the resydent hadd disbursed to me, for the service of the state during the 11 months I was employed, all of it extending to the soun of 250 l. as his under-wrettin account by my hand cann shou. Noble sir, I expect your ratificationne of the same. As your honor may conceive me capable heirefter to doe his hyghnes and the state service, I am of intentione to settle myself in a service for my livelihood; zitt fall I allwyse be reddie to quyte all the interests in the worlde (thocht I be settled) if his highnes fall recall me to his service. In the mein tyme I will drive the tyme of the best I cann, and still conserve my affectionne to his hyghnes his service. This I faithfullie promise, that quheresoever I settle myselfe, my correspondence still shall continue to your honor by the old character. More money doe I not desire; onlie I humblie entreat his hyghnes and your honor's favour, till you heir quhat account I fall render you of forrain affairs without your money; since I have quytted my crowned king and his interest for the love of his hyghnes his service in sum small recompence for his hyghnes's favours done to me before this. I assure your honor heirby I will remain steadfast to my professed principalls, and lett your honor know, quhat in my ingadgments I cann carp prejudiciall to his hyghnes and his affairs, still directing

directing my letters to the resident in Hamburg. Noble sir, if your honor think it good to make use of secretarie Massinett by Charles Steuart, it is good; the man is worthy of consideration, and not to be rejected; and I will make itt my request, that use may be made of him, not onlie being the French and Latin secretarie, bot also imployed in the English affairs. Little may doe itt; sum 10 l. or less a month cann oblige him to discover what cann cum to the reach of his knowledge. If ever your sword extend itself without our native dominions, I humbly intreat your honor may thinke upon quhat service I cann be able to performe for his hyghnes. Never man shall be more willing and faithfull thenn shall be, noble sir,

Your honor his verie faithfull servant,

Hamburg the $\frac{11}{16}$ May, } 1655.
June, }

JO. HENDERSON.

A Letter of intelligence from the Hague.

June 11, 1655. [N. S.]

Ce 6^{me} Junii, 1655.

CEUX de Hollande sont encore en leurs deliberations, sans en avoir rien rapporté dans Vol. xxvi. les estats generaux. Et quoy qu'exterieurement ce soit sur la continuation ou abolition p. 378. du veilgelt, si est ce qu'au fonds c'est sur l'armement des Swedois. Car le trafique & commerce Baltique est une chose tres sensible a Amsterdam & a la Hollande. Et tant de Heinsius que d'ailleurs la Hollande est constamment informée, que jamais la Sweede ne fit tant d'armement: & que Coningsmarck se tiendra avec 12 mil hommes en deça Breemen pour visiter les provinces de Geldre, Overysse, Frise, & Omlandes, en cas que cest estat envoie une flotte en le mer Baltique. Si que la Hollande a grandement le loup par les oreilles. Il est vray, que la Hollande a esté resoluë, 1. pour envoyer un flotte vers le Sundt; & de la (s'il n'y a rien a faire en la mer Baltique) vers la mer mediterrannée: & 2. de conclurre les 24 articles avec l'electeur de Brandeborch. Mais 1. les provinces ne sont pas aussy-tost prests, quand la Hollande est prest. 2. La Hollande meme consistant en 19 membres, est fort sujette a changement. 3. L'electeur de Brandeborch se montre scrupuleux, au moins pas si resolu, comme cy devant. 4. L'on a grand soupçon, que le dit electeur s'entend avec la Sweede. 5. La Hollande commence a craindre les Swedois. 6. Est estonnée de voir, que Danfigh ne s'adresse point icy, tout ainsy donc comme l'on est & demeure encore traitant avec l'electeur de Brandeborch, sans conclusion touchant l'equipage vers le Sont, &c. & par ainsy il pourra aisement arriver, que ny l'alliance se conclue, ny la flotte vers la mer Baltique s'envoie. Et cy devant on a parlé haut de l'envoy de la flotte; maintenant moins. Et on s'embrouille de plus en plus; & les adherents du prince sont bien aise que la Hollande patit.

Bref, il est certain, qu'il n'y a point de resolution ferme & generale encore pour l'envoy de la flotte; & la Hollande devient aussy craintive, comme quand le sieur Beuningew vint de Sweede, preschant que la Sweede pouvoit arrester en un heure 60, 70, a 80 navires Hollandoises.

Junii 7.

L'on continue encore dans la besoigne sur l'alliance avec l'electeur de Brandeborch. Le premier dans la commission est a present le sieur de la Capelle; mais puisque le dit sieur de la Capelle est aussy des estats de Cleve, consequemment sujet de l'electeur de Brandeborch, les estats de Hollande prennent cela mal, soudenants qu'il se devoit excuser de telle commission.

Il y en a aussy parmy les Hollandois, que les troupes de Brandeborch au pays de Cleve pourroient estre employées contre Deventer, pour le prince Guiliaume de Nassau, beau-frere de l'electeur; ce qui rend aucuns & Hollande pensifs; mais neantmoins l'opinion, qu'ils ont, que Brandeborch pourra contrecarrer les Swedois, les emportera. Et cependant ceux de Geldre, Overysse, & semblables peu interesses en Prussie, mais beaucoup craignants un invasion dans leur terres, augmentent leur peur, & sont difficiles.

Le different de Gorcom estant ventilé dans l'assemblée des estats de Hollande, a esté renvoyé vers la cour de justice: toutefois sera aussy cependant tenté *via concordat* par deputés; a quoy le magistrat meme aussy se montre enclin & resolu.

Quant a l'alliance avec Brandeborch, je apprend, que l'electeur estant debiteur a cest estat de cent mille rix-dalers, qui en quarante ans est accru a presque huit fois autant, & voyant la Hollande portée & chaude a l'alliance, pretend d'avoir mortification de ceste debte; & que par cette alliance tant la dite somme, que tout autre chose, que l'estat pourroit pretendre (d'avoir gardé & fortifié les villes de Cleve) de l'electeur, soit quitte, composé, & aussoupi.

VOL. III.

6 K

L'on

A. D. 1655. L'on me dit, que pour ces & autres respects la Hollande se refroidit, & songe comment fortir avec bonne façon de cette besoigne.

A Amsterdam sera advis assuré, que le roy de Sweede a fait arrester toutes navires Hollandois a Riga, & ailleurs, pour servir au transport de son armée; ce qui cause dommage & alteration a la Hollande; car ces navires estoient presque a demy charges de marchandise; & c'est un interruption du trafic.

L'on observe aussy a Amsterdam, que cest année bien 300 navires moins qu'autrefois vont en mer; ce qu'on impute aux 2 edicts ou placardes d'Angleterre; l'un nommé *Increase of shipping*, l'autre touchant le trafic aux Barbados.

7. Au soir.

Sur l'alliance avec Brandeborch on a esté en conference plusieurs fois; les articles comme de cest estat ils sont proposés, aures veu; or de la part de l'electeur a esté respondu sur cela, & en quoy on est different se voit en ce qui suit:

1. Touchant le rang; en quoy cest estat, comme par la paix vraiment souverain, pretend la precedence sur l'electeur, vassal de l'empereur; consequent subalterne.
 2. Au nombre de 2000 pietons, l'electeur veut avoir adjousté 1000 chevaux.
 3. Et qu'en temps de necessité ce nombre soit doublé a 4000 a pied & 2000 chevaux. A sçavoir que cest estat doit fournir ces nombres a l'electeur; mais l'electeur ne fournira que la moitié.
 4. En cas d'extreme necessité, l'un assistera l'autre encore de plus grand nombre, & ce au depens de celuy, qui le requiert; a quoy cest estat ne contredit guere; mais veut que caution soit donnée pour la restitution de ces depens. L'electeur ne veut point de caution.
 5. L'electeur veut aussy permission de levée des gens de guerre, de navires, de matelots.
 6. L'extension; l'electeur la veut sur le article 3. apres les mots, *aende Oostsee gelegen vock audere syne Landen*.
 7. L'electeur ne veut étendre la defension jusques aux terres d'Oost & West-Inde.
 8. Sur le 4. article; que l'electeur ne chargera pas les navires & marchandises &c. l'electeur y veut avoir adjoustée ceste exception, si non en notoire necessité.
 9. Quant a la dette des 100,000 ryx-dalers; sera teu.
- Le sieur Rosenwinge a ce matin requis expedition, & sur cela aura esté conference.

Junii 8.

Hier est resolu & aujourd'huy resumé, que l'on escrira serieusement au roy de France; & que l'ambassadeur Boreel ira expressement en cour a Compiègne, faire plainte solennelle au roy de la massacre des Vaudois; le prier de vouloir les prendre en sa protection; les restablir en possessions de leurs terres & possession; leur fair ravoit le libre exercice de leur religion; & punir les Francois, qui pourroient avoir contribué a ce massacre.

La Hollande est aussy en deliberation pour proposer moyen a la provisionele subsistance de ce chassés; ce qui sera un collecte. Item tant Hollande qu'Utrecht propose une deputation a faire vers les cantons Swisses evangeliques, pour les inciter en faveur des Vaudois; aussy pour a l'avenir y tenir un ministre resident, a aviser ce qui se passe a Rome, Italie, Sclavonie, &c. la Suisse estant passage pour ces pais nommes.

Hier en conference particuliere l'on donné au sieur Rosenwinge un escrit contenant les raisons, pour quoi l'on ne sauroit resoudre a luy accorder ce qu'il demande, & pourtant on fera replique, ou il s'en ira.

J'ay de bonne part, que la Hollande recule plus qu'elle n'avance en l'alliance avec Brandeborch; considerant entre autres, que sans Dennemarck, & sans Danfigk, il y a peu a faire avec Brandeborch seul.

Aussy l'electeur de Brandeborch, le prince d'Orange, & le prince Guillaume estants 3 testes en un chaperon, sont chose suspecte a la Hollande; ou le doivent faire craindre, ce qui fust dit autrefois de roy Louis XI, encore dauphin, & s'insinuant au duc de Bourgoigne; qu'il seroit un jour un renard, que mangeroit ses poules.

L'assemblée en Zeelande sera si court, qu'ils ont fait sçavoir a ceux d'Overyssel, que leurs deputés n'y pourront pas venir.

Junii 9.

Le traité avec Brandeborch est not seulement malade; ains presque mort; au moins les estats de Hollande en sont entierement alienés; & en ont perdu l'inclination. Ils en jettent la faute sur l'electeur, ou son plenipotentiaire, le docteur Wyman, qui a voulu trop vulpiner, *baer-cloven* & trop tirer l'eau a son moulin. Pourtant disent, que voyants l'electeur se refroidir & se reculer, ils trouvent meilleur de demeurer sans engagement; &

& si un jour l'electeur estant assailly, on trouve l'interest de ceste estat requerir, qu'on l'assiste, on l'assistera; & on en aura plus de gré, si l'on ne se trouve point interessé, on sera libre. Mais ceux de Hollande ont eu fort suspect de voir, que les principistes travailloient si fort pour la dite alliance; & sachants que l'electeur, le prince d'Orange, le prince Guiliaume, &c. sont 3 testes en un chaperon, ont preveu, que l'electeur gagneroit trop d'autorité dans l'estat par ce traité.

Junii 10.

Encore cejourd'huy n'ay este rien rapporté de Hollande, & le sieur Wyman ayant remarqué, que la Hollande devenoit froide envers le traité d'alliance avec Brandeborch, a fait un court voyage vers Amsterdam, pour eveiller & eschauffer l'inclination d'un membre si principal. Mais la Hollande de plus en plus a l'opinion, que Brandeborch s'entend avec la Sweede; & aussy a pour suspect, que les principistes icy ont tant de ferveur pour le dit traité.

Junii 11.

La ville de Weesél a écrit une grande plainte aux estats generaux, de ce que l'electeur de Brandeborch soit entrée dans le pais de Cleve, y exautionne, prenne, pille, comme si ce fussent des ennemis; requiert que cest estat, comme garands du traité de Xanten de l'an 1654, veuille procurer, que telle chose ne se face plus a l'avenir. Il y a apparence, qu'on écrira a l'electeur; ou que quelque article ou clause influe dans l'alliance avec Brandeborch, si elle se face, qui est encore bien incertain.

Ceux de Hollande ont a ce matin produit leur avis provincial sur les remarques du plenipotentiaire de Brandeborch; dont on ne sauroit encore rien juger. Il semble, qu'ils approchent aucunement du sentiment de l'electeur; mais demain on verra de plus pres, ce qui en sera. Desja on fait, que demain l'assemblée de Hollande se veut separer. Et si alors rien ne se conclud, rien n'en fera; car le temps ne permet point de delay. Le baron Spar, ablegat du Roy de Swede, a fait exhiber copie de ses lettres de creance, & aura demain audience. Je reste

Vostre tres humble serviteur.

An intercepted letter.

Thursday, May ult. 1655.

WORTHY FREIND,

I Forgott in my last, which gave you an account of the bookes, which are now upon the way for you, that the Scotch history will be found among the rest. Vol. xxvi. p. 230

Our old president is returned to his Academicall Tusculan. The Proto-biblioth, and some other old faces remembred you the last night. Dr. Sarum Hen. did me the favour yesterday to remember you at my chamber. Your poore *** here dayly expected a rout from the new commissioners (of whom I suppose this enclosed tells you.) I wish I could send you what is done, and who is undone this day; for they sitt on thursdays. 'Tis already reported in the parts adjacent (and I had newes of it this day from severall quarters) that diverse ministers are turned a grazing, and that by name mr. Farring: Dr. Gillling and one Wild were prisoners. But sure there is no such thing, nor I believe like to be so. Only they waite (I heare) a suspension in the milder sense.

You have heard, I suppose, of old sir Harrye's death, and how his chaplaine hanged himselfe neere his chamber doore. We feare a greate change of title. The army is drawing neere us. The prisoners of the Tower shall, 'tis sayd, be Barbadozz'd. God make us ready for the worst of times, if yet we can have worse then these. I am

Your unchangeable,

WM. GORGE.

Send when I shall send you some sprinklings of money.

Still my humble service to the * * * *
We have a strong report here of a massacre
in Savoy, and a fast is injoyn'd about it.

The superscription,

*A monsieur monsieur George a Laon. Il faut le
laisser chez monsieur la Fontaine aux trois
Burses Rue St. Honore à Paris.*

At

At the council at Whitehall.

Thursday, May 31, 1655.

A. D. 1655.
 Vol. xxvi.
 P. 427.

UPON reading a report made by colonel Jones from a committee of the council, to whom the petition of Joseph Wallington, Edmund Warcup, esqrs; and John Grovenor, gent. was referred, they thereby praying a grant to them or their assigns for the sole exercise of their invention of charking or calcining of New Castle coals, or any sort of stone coal that cakes, for the space of fourteen years, according to the statute, setting forth, that upon discourse with some persons experienced in the trade of coals, and consideration of a return from mr. attorney general, the committee do not see to the contrary, but by law a patent may be granted as is desired, with a salvo, nevertheless, of a grant passed 23 November 1654, to John Copley, esq; for the sole use and exercise of his art and invention of making of iron with pitcoal charked, &c. to the said mr. Copley, paying a moiety of the profits into the exchequer. Ordered, that it be offered to his highness as the advice of the council, that his highness will be pleased to pass a grant unto the petitioners accordingly.

HEN. SCOBELL, clerke of the council.

By his highness Oliver lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and the dominions thereunto belonging.

V. xxxiv.
 P. 75.

THE articles of capitulation agreed upon between general Monck and the earl of Lowdon are hereby ratified and approved in all points, esteeming the same as herein particular exprest; and the said earl of Lowdon is to be protected in his person against any arrest or restraint for debts, until such time as the said earl shall go about the getting payment of the annuities owing to him, therewith to pay his debts, which he is to do with all diligence, wherein he is to have the assistance of the council of Scotland in all things, according to his rights and laws of that nation.

For the council of Scotland, and others
 whom these may concern.

For the council of Scotland for the persons after following.

Vol. xxxiv.
 P. 77.

FIRST, in regard the earl of Perth, lord Drummond, earl of Tullibardin, and laird Mahonny, who have and yet are able and willing to do good service to the state, and have suffered the burning of their houses, and the plundering of their land by the enemy; you are therefore to take their condition into special consideration relating to their losses and sufferings, and discharging the payment of the last moiety of their fines.

Secondly, you are to take special notice of the articles of the capitulation agreed upon betwixt general Monck and the earl of Lowdon, relating to the full ratification of the same articles, and giving your full assistance unto him for getting payment of the annuities resting to him, conform to the same articles, and in every other thing else wherein he shall require your assistance, conform to the laws of Scotland; and that you protect his person from any restraint, while such time as he shall recover payment of the same annuities for payment of his debts, which you are to see him go about with all diligence for payment of the same.

Thirdly, in regard that the town of St. Johnston's have articles signed by my lord protector's own hand, and that town having and yet are willing to shew their affection to the state; you are therefore to take notice of their sufferings and losses, by allowing to them the excise of their own town for such a time as you shall think fit, and while they be satisfied for their losses.

Fourthly, you are to take notice of mr. James Pierfon, John Foules, and mr. James Drummond, in regard of their affection and good service; and you are to ratify a gift granted to the said mr. James Pierfon, conformed to the same gift; and for the said John Foules, and mr. James Drummond, you are to assist them to get payment of their just debts owing them by the late duke Hamilton, and of the first and readiest of his estate and lands with the first of his creditors.

Fifthly, you are to take special notice of the proclamation past by the commissioners for the visitation of colleges and planting of churches in Scotland, against prayer for the pretended

pretended king ; you are to see the same proclamation and certification thereof relating to the stipends of those who shall transgress the same, especially to the ministers of Edinburgh and St. Andrews ; and in the mean time you are to see mr. John Hog, minister of Leith, possessed in his church of Leith for performing of divine worship there, in regard he hath desisted from praying for the king, and he and his parishioners willing to give security for their peaceable deportment in time to come ; and that the garrison of Leith shall be free of any prejudice by their having the liberty of their church of Leith, and the exercises of the worship of God there.

Sixthly, in regard there be a great many hospitals and other mortifications in Scotland ; you are therefore to take special notice and consideration of the same, and see the same particularly employed for the benefit of the poor, and other pious uses, for which they were first appointed ; and herein you are not to fail to cause a particular account to be given from all these several counties in Scotland, and to obey every other thing else for the help and relief of the poor in the several parishes, that so none go a begging, to the scandal of the Christian profession, but each parish to maintain its own poor.

Seventhly, you are to give particular orders unto the commissioners for visitation of colleges, and planting of churches, that they go carefully about the planting of the vacant churches with honest and faithful able ministers, who upon the call of the major part of each congregation, if the major part be the melior part, and if not upon the call of the minor part of the melior part of each congregation, and that without any relation or respect had to any former order granted to mr. Gilaspie and others, that none shall be admitted without their recommendation, which was rather for their own eminency than the good of the work, as it now appears.

Eighthly, you are after conference with some of the most eminent of the ministers, and evidences had from them of their peaceable good deportment, you are to permit them the full and free liberty for the exercise of their church discipline in synods, presbyteries, and church sessions, provided they act nothing in prejudice of the government, and of the liberty of the people of God relating to worship.

Ninthly, in regard of the great advantage is probable by the blessing of God may come, not only to the gospel, by taking off the tyranny of the inquisition of Spain, but also unto this whole commonwealth, for relief of the burthens there by this expedition of the West Indies, wherein we are most willing that the nation of Scotland be partakers ; you are therefore with all diligence and carefulness to call before you the whole sheriffs of the several counties, and governors of the several garrisons, and appoint them to call before them the several heritors and freeholders within and under their several commands and jurisdictions, and require them not only to give up a list, but also to take and apprehend by the assistance of the several governors and their forces, all masterless, idle vagabonds, and robbers, both men and women, within their several bounds, that the same so taken and apprehended may be delivered by them unto the several sheriffs and governors of garrisons, and others to be appointed by us, to be transported and carried along into the West Indies or elsewhere they shall be ordered by us ; by doing whereof, not only shall the county be rid of robbers and thieves, and other unprofitable instruments fit for nothing but to be actors of mischief ; but also they shall be employed for the furtherance of the abovenamed expedition, so much tending to the advantage of the whole commonwealth. And that the aforesaid course may be the more effectual, you are to certify all sheriffs, governors, and heritors, within the nation of Scotland, that whatever person they shall conceal, and not give in the list, that are known to be thieves, robbers, vagabonds, and other unprofitable instruments, that they shall not only be liable to what injury the country shall hereafter suffer by these, but also shall be holden and reputed as enemies to the state in all time hereafter. And further to the effect, that thieving and robbery may be banished out of that nation in all time to come, you are to impose a six pence Scotch upon every hundred pounds rent in Scotland, which is to be collected by the collectors of the assessments of the several shires, over and above the ordinary assessment, which is to be paid yearly by two moieties ; the first moiety on the 10th of November next, the second moiety the 10th of May 1656 ; and thereafter to continue six pence out of every hundred pound rent in Scotland till further order ; and which money so collected is to be paid to such persons upon the north side of the river of Forth, as particularly shall be appointed by colonel William Bryan, governor of Inverlochy, and colonel Fitch and lieutenant colonel Blunt governors of Inverness, for watching of these bounds, and taking of the names of all vagabonds and robbers, and their receipt, and by the commander in chief from the South side of Forth ; likewise for watching of these bounds, and taking of the names of all such vagabonds, robbers, masterless and idle persons, dangerous instruments to the peace of the commonwealth, that the same so listed and taken on all occasions may depart the country, and be employed for the West India expedition, and other services of the commonwealth upon all occasions for the good and benefit thereof.

A. D. 1655. Lastly, that some officers may be commissioned for the West India expedition in Scotland, for the taking up all such as willingly will engage in the said service; and having so taken them to put them into companies and regiments for the better and more speedy expediting the said service.

The Spanish ambassador in Holland to the states general.

Lectum June 11, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxvii.
p. 21.

THE underwritten ambassador of Spain being informed, that the colonels Spanekfis and Bruninck have endeavoured of late to frame in this country a private party for France, and design to surprize some frontier place belonging to the king his master, having already gained to be of their party to assist them in their design, colonel Balfell, Caron, and Van Dyck, with some 600 and 120 soldiers, all reformed officers, who are to find all things necessary for the carrying on of this design, whereof he the ambassador could not defer any longer to give notice to their high and mighty lordships, whom he doth verily believe to be ignorant thereof. But in regard the same is so much tending against the public peace, and the safety thereof; and in regard the same is managed by officers and colonels of this country newly disbanded; he doth desire their high and mighty lordships, in the name of the king his master, that the consequence of such a design may be prevented, and that no assistance whatsoever may be given to the enemies of my master under any pretence whatsoever.

GAMARRA.

Chanut, the French ambassador in Holland, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Hague, June 11, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 13.

I WAS not extraordinarily much surprized at what you were pleased to write to me in your letter of the 4th of this month. The lord protector doth not make any accommodation with us, but because he feareth to engage too far against France; and as long as he can delay it without giving us cause wholly to abandon the negotiation, he will do it. The pretence, which he hath taken, is in some manner very specious in his regard; but in ours it is of so bad a consequence, that there can be no other cause of delay which can be of greater prejudice unto us. Wherefore as far as I can judge of a business, whereof I know not the bottom, you take a very wise resolution to retire yourself. You have to do with men very prudent in truth, but very irresolute. It must be, they see themselves at the point of declaring without delay, if they will or will not. If they take to the last against so many reasons, which ought to make them to fear it, we shall know that there was little assurance in the other; thanks be to God we do not fear them.

My lord Nieuport hath writ a letter, that he had an extraordinary audience of the lord protector upon the business of Savoy; wherein he did handle the same to the best advantage, that he made the protector so sensible by reciting the barbarisms committed upon their brethren, and through the interest of the religion, that he was wonderfully moved, and presently promised great matters, and concluded upon his amity with the Hollanders, that he would sink or swim with them. You cannot believe, my lord, how maliciously those that hate us have laid hold of this occasion to do us all the mischief they can; and who will annex the fortune of their state to that of the protector, by reason of the common hatred against the houses of Stuart and Orange. All the ministers have made very strange exclamations thereof in their pulpits; and many do publish it, that they were advised and set on to do it by the French, who made this trial in the neighbourhood, to see whether the world would suffer that the like massacre should be undertaken upon the Hugonots of France.

I make no oppositions at all to these ridiculous suppositions, which do run amongst the people with the violence of the stream, being assured, that truth, that will not lie hid very long, will dispute all these foolish opinions. In short, my lord, we are here in a state half popular, where every one doth pretend to be a great politician, and few are so in effect.

They treat here for an alliance with the elector of Brandenburg. The preparations of the Swedes do very much trouble this state.

Caillet,

Caillet, the prince of Condé's secretary, to Barriere.

From the camp at Sardinet, June 11, 1655. [N. S.]

NOW the two armies of the enemies, that of the mareschal of Turenne, and that of la Ferte, are joined together, and are quartered in such a place, from whence they may go to Rocroy or Landrecy; from the first of these they are not above a day's march. His highness doth intend to march with his army to morrow to Beaumont, four miles from hence, where he may more easily learn the march and design of the enemy; namely, the place which they may aim at to assault. There are some that say, that their design is against Cambray, which they will find to be a piece of hard digestion. His highness is resolved to do his utmost for the relief of them. His highness is very much satisfied with his troops. They are all old soldiers, and have served in the armies of Sweden and Bavaria; the number of horse doth amount to 5000 compleat, both men and horse as good as ever were seen in the field.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvii.
p. 5.

Extract out of the register of the resolutions of the high and mighty lords, states general of the United Provinces.

Veneris the 11th of June, 1655. [N. S.]

THERE being heard the report of the lords Huygens and others their high and mighty lordships commissioners for the affairs of the sea, according to their foregoing resolution concerning the equipping of five men of war, to be commanded by vice admiral Ruyter, it is herewith resolved and agreed unto, that the said resolution of the 2d of April last shall be sent to the college of Amsterdam, with an earnest request and desire, that they will draw up such instructions for the said vice admiral de Ruyter, as they, according to time and occasion, think most fit for the advantage of the service of the states; and that being done, that they would therewith send the said de Ruyter hither to be concluded by their high and mighty lordships.

Vol. xxvii.
p. 9.

Daniel Searle, governor of Barbadoes, to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

BY severall former missives to your highness from the right honourable the generall and commissioners for the management of your highness expedition into America, I doubt not butt your highness have received a perticuler accompt of the proceedings of the saide commissioners in this island, and of their departuer with the fleete and army from hence the end of March last, towardes Hispaniola, the place by them heare pitched on first to be attempted to be gained, as most advantagious in order to your highness and your counsell's further designe on the Spaniard in this part of the world. Ere this come to hand, I hope your highness will have received some accompt from thence, what God hath done by them in the saide service. As the motives enducing your highness to see high and eminent an undertakeing were drawne from righteous and just principles, soe the successe, it's hoped, will through mercie and the providence of God attending the endeavours of the instruements, be answerable to your highness and the commonwealth's expectations.

Vol. xxvi.
p. 284.

Since the fleete's departuer hence hath arrived severall of the stoare-ships appointed for the saide fleete and army, viz. the Recovery, the William, the Edward, the Augustine, and the Morning Starre. The fower former I have dispatched hence, and are gonn after the fleete, to Hispaniola; the latter, viz. the Morning Starre, being somewhat defective, by extremity of weather in their passage to their place, and loaden partly with marchants goods for this island, and partly with stoares for the fleete and army, which was on board her for the saide fleete and army, I caused to be loaden on the Augustine and Edward, unto the filling up of them, and the remainder on board a vessell, which was lately seized on, and secured by the commissioners for prize goods from the Dutchy, and is now redie to saile. Wee heare nott any thing of the shippes, the Little and Greate Charity, in whome the remainder of the stoares are. When it shall please God they arrive with us, I shall hasten them after. Dureing the time of general Venables being heare, came to my hands a pattent from your highness; dated at Westminster the 31st of July last, for my continuing in the government of this place for the terme of three years from the date thereof, according to the tennor of saide pattent; which

haveing

A. D. 1655. haveing communicated to the councell and assembly of free-houlders of this island, much allackraty and demonstrations of chearfull obedience to your highnes and to the power and authority therein given appeared in them, as allsoe for that your highnes was therein pleased to confirme unto them theire former and ancient priviledge for the election of free-houlders, as the representative of this island, to give theire consents heare, in the makeing such constitutions, ordinances, and by-lawes (not repugnant to the lawes of the commonwealth) as may be thought fitt for the good and well-being of this collony. The trust your highnes hath bin pleased to committ unto me therein, I shall labour, through the assistance of grace, soe to discharge, as therein not to be found negligent nor unfaithfull.

By former commissions and powers to mee given, as well from your highnes as from the parliament, the former supream authority, I have exercisid the government of this place from the time of its surrender, as well in the millitary as civill authority; as being the charge and duty of the trust devolved on mee and the councell heare to performe; and doe humbly judge and conceive your highnes commands on mee by vertue of saide pattent is of noe lesse extent, your highnes therein requiering mee to doe and execute, for the orderly and peaceable government of this place and people, all things to the office of government in dew manner appertaineing. Butt may it please your highnes; the right honourable generall Venables haveing heare receved from us some additionall forces off foote and horse of the inhabitants of this island, to the nnumber of some three thousand five hundred, and some 2000 armes, my selfe and councell on some debates concerning the condition of the place, and the waye of ordering and settling our militia for the preservation of the peace and safetye of the island, when the saide forces should be withdrawne from us, determined to take the same into consideration, and soe to settell the militia thereof by your highnes power and authority given to my selfe and councell for the government of the island, as to give an accompt off, and to be responsable unto your highnes for the same.

General Venables was pleased to declare the authority of the militia, the trained bands, and forces of this island, to be in himselfe by those collatterall powers your highnes was pleased to give unto him; and accordingly hath granted forth his commissions heare to persons boeth for the command of our foote and horse for the safety of this place, and my selfe heare to act as his leftenant generall; which hath occasioned fundrie debates and disputes in the general assembly of this island, and given dissatisfaction, that two powers, the one for the millitary, the other for the civill, should be heare extant, as two distinct authorities over them, the one from your highnes to my selfe as governor, by vertue of your highnes pattent, which is by saide generall Venables construed to invest mee only with the civill authority of this place; the other from generall Venables for the military authoritye. Att a meetinge of the saide assembly of free-houlders with my selfe and councell, the cuntrie made theire requests unto mee, that it might be humbly represented to your highnes, that the militia of this island might be managed, and from time to time, as occasion shall require, for the defence and safetye of this place, settled and regulated, by that authority your highnes hath or shall be pleased to settell heare (as from the first settelment of this collony hath bin donne) and it is humbly conceived, your highnes pattent to my selfe and councell chosen is full and ample authority and power for us to continue to act by, as well in the military as to the civill authority. But general Venables haveing constituted and regulated our militia by authority and power from himselfe derived from your highnes, hath thereby made voyde all power and commissions by me granted as governor. Empowered also thereto by your highnes authoritye to my selfe and councell, I have in all humility judged it necessarye for satisfaction to this people, as allsoe that I might understand your highnes will and pleasure therein, to give your highnes the accompt thereof. This being what at present offers, I humbly subscribe myselfe

Your highnes most humble

Barbadoes, June 1, 1655.

and faithfull servant,

DANIEL SEARLE.

The protector to the Duanna of Algier.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 289.

Whereas Edmond Casson was in the year 1646 sent over to Algier, as agent for the parliament of England, and was resident until the fifth day of December last, at which time he died in Algier aforesaid; after whose death, as hath been informed, the Duanna of Algier did cause the goods of the said Edmond Casson, and what else was in his house

house at the time of his death, to be inventoried, and committed to the custody of John A. D. 1655.
Roach and Abraham Smedmore, his servants, who yet remain there, who were ordered by the said Duanna not to deliver the same to any, but to such as should be impowered from this commonwealth to receive the same. And when Elizabeth Bagnall widow, the only sister of the said Edmond Casson, hath taken letters of administration of the goods and chattles of the said Edmond her brother deceased, and thereby is according to the laws of England entituled to all the estate of the said Edmond Casson, and hath humbly besought us, that wee would vouchsafe unto her our gracious letters of recommendation unto the said Duanna, to the end she may receive the goods and debts belonging unto her said brother at the time of his death; we therefore out of our desire, that all the people of the commonwealth may enjoy their rights, have thought fit to signify unto the said Duanna our resentment of their great care and endeavour, that justice might be done in the premises; and do hereby desire, that the said Duanna would be pleased to give order, that all the goods, and what else did belong to the said Edmond Casson at the time of his death, as also such debts as were justly owing there unto him, may be delivered over and paid unto Richard Casson, whom she hath herewith sent over, and authorised for that purpose. So shall the said Duanna perfect their former good intentions, and do a respect, which will be acceptable unto us, who shall be ready to return the like upon all occasions. Given at our court at Westminster the first of June, 1655.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, June 12, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

SINCE my former the letters from Basil in Switzerland bring, that the 11th of the last month 1000 Switzers newly raised parted from Lucerne to come thorough Burgundy to join with Turenne's army; and now they are in Burgundy, and in their march towards the said mareschal. Also that the protestant Switzers are much against the troops of Savoy, by reason of the massacres in the Vallies of Lucerne and St. Martin, within three leagues of Pignerol. The same letters bring also, that two deputies from the duke of Modena treated in Basil with prince Rupert Palatine to raise three regiments for the service of their master. Vol. xxv. p. 27.

It is written from Warsaw, that prince Charles Ferdinand, only brother to the king of Poland, was dead, of which we expect the confirmation.

Since the accommodation of the duke of Orleans with his daughter, (as you have heard of before) mr. Nau intendant of Orleans's house pretends to shew a great error in his master's accounts; not comprehending notable sums of monies, which amounts to 800 or 900,000 livres, of which there was not a word spoken as yet. Mr. Goulas first secretary of his highness is here these two days, and thought about that business, of which more in time.

The report we had of the death of mr. de Bouteville in our former letters is false, as we have now the contrary.

The now dutchess of Modena departed home thursday last with her mother for Modena, accompanied with the count de Noailles and his wife, as I writ before.

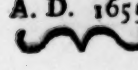
Mr. de Tellier secretary of State, who was here for the levies of some infantry, as also to procure money for the next occasion, parted hence to return to the court yesterday.

Besides the 3000 sacks of corn and meal mr. de Turenne sent to Quesnoy, he sent also more wine than the city or garrison are able to buy, which is much.

Their troops were yet the 7th instant in their quarters about Chauny and Moile, where the king arrived from la Fere expressly to see the said army thursday last in the morning, with a body of an army of above 5 or 6000 horse. In the mean time the rest of the court remained at la Fere, from whence they write, that the business of Arras betwixt the governor and court is accommodated, the court having received all the assurance and fidelity, that could be had from mr. de Montdieu governor of the place, both by the letter he writ to the cardinal, as also for the refusal he gave to the enemies messenger, with his great and high offers; yet the court desires him only to alter some of his officers, who tormented the court with such false informations, that the governor was suspected to have had intelligence with the enemies; and the court gives the said governor all the assurance to make him mareschal de France after this campaign.

We expect only la Fere with his forces to join with mareschal de Turenne, to form a considerable siege; and after that conjunction we hope our army will be of the number of 26 or 28,000 men.

The marquis de St. Andrée Montbrun, an hugonot, parted hence monday last to serve in quality of a lieutenant general under prince Thomas.

A. D. 1655.  The Franche-comtois have renewed their neutralities with France of late, and the parliament of Dol have nobly opposed the levies of 400, that the Spaniards pretended in their dominions, though great part of the nobility consented unto it already. The first president of their parliament refuseth to depute towards the king, and excuses himself not to come with their remonstrances, knowing well they will not be agreeable to the court. Their deputies are not yet named.

It is written from Provence, that duke de Vandosme arrived at Toulon.

Yesterday a commissary went by orders to certain places, where they sell images, where he seized upon an original from England, which represented the protector Cromwell on horseback, over which were written ten verses extraordinarily insolent and injurious both to the church and all monarchies. The copies of which, which were selling publickly, were seized upon in all places where they could find them; so the protector Cromwell receives the affront every where. Therefore let him clear himself the best he can, which is the wishes of,

Sir, your most faithful servant.

By the last post but this it was written to the court of France and many others in this city, that our peace with you was concluded, signed, and sealed; but by this post I see nor hear any confirmation of it. You have now the history of Savoy from your other friends here.

Sir, yours as above.

A letter of intelligence.

Brussels, June 12, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 27.

YOURS by the last of the 4th instant I received; and therein the high resentments of my lord protector, and generally of all the protestants, for the massacres done in all the Vallies of St. Martin and Lucerne. It is no less in the United Provinces. We are glad here, that the French had a hand in it, in hopes the marquis de Lede's negotiation shall have the better success. The said marquis in his last letter to count Fuenfeldagna intimates some slowness in his negotiation with the protector, which troubles a little the chief ministers here. The news from hence are not many. The city of Arras, as we hear, is to be surrendered to the archduke by the governor; but I have no assurance of it, yet am satisfied, that the governor is discontented, and some employed to him by the archduke, who parted from this city Sunday last in the afternoon with a great train. The same day departed count Fuenfeldagna, the first for Tournay, the second to Valenciennes; but now I hear they are both in Tournay. The queen of Swedeland bestowed on the archduke a stately horse, as black as jet, with all furniture, a case of pistols, &c. The furniture was embroidered with gold, precious stones, and very rich. She also presented to the archduke's officers and gentlemen very good things. The said queen is still here; so is as yet duke Francis of Lorain, who will soon follow to the field. You hear, I presume, what accident happened to Marienburgh by powder, which took fire; but a worse fire was like to be lately, for Cambray was like to be lost by treachery, a burning match being left in the magazine; and when it gave fire to the powder within such a time, 3000 French were lodged to enter and take what should be left undestroyed. But all is happily prevented; by what means I know not. Spaniards were in the treason. You may hear more of it, if they silence it not, and make the punishment, *absque strepitu*, as they do in such cases.

Some here talk of a cessation for six weeks with the French; but I give no credit to it, nor have I more to add this week; always persevering,

Sir, yours, &c.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, June 12, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 33.

YOURS of the 7th instant I received with this post, with little of news, but the general resentment of all in England for the massacres committed in the Vallies of Lucerne and St. Martin. The hugonots here and most catholicks do the same. You have now a relation of it, as the lord chancellor here had it; but it is old, and so it may be you will not look upon it. The Irish regiment said to be there was the earl of Bristol's regiment, a small and weak one, most of them being English. I hear not such complaints of them as you set forth.

The court of France is much troubled for these massacres, not because they are done, A. D. 1655.
but that it hurts them, for now they are satisfied it retards their peace with the protector;
and a greater trouble they have, that by those means the marquis de Leda has leisure to
proceed in his negotiation. Of this I gave you account in former letters.

Certainly the king of France will easily answer the protector, that the duke of Savoy is
an absolute prince of himself, &c. Time will discover more of it.

I understand in secret, that the armies of this king yet on the borders of Flanders are
so balanced with them of the archduke's, that there is no likelihood of any considerable
action of either side, if they come not to battle, the event of which is so uncertain, and
the loss so great, as neither party will willingly hazard it.

Here is nothing more, but what petty news you have in the annexed occurrences,
from

Sir, yours, &c.

H. Cromwell to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

AT my coming out of London I desired your favour to this bearer alderman Walley, Vol. xxvii.
who hath attended a long time (very much to the prejudice of his own affairs) to P. 489.
have his accounts audited. The speedy appointing him auditors, which it seems must
be named by his highness, is all that he desires, or that I request on his behalf; his former
good services to the public, and the great advantages it hath had by his endeavours,
is sufficiently known, which I hope may be one argument for your respect towards
him. I might add his willingness still upon all occasions to help forward any public
business; and if it might add any thing for him, I could tell you of very great respects
done by him to,

Sir, your most humble servant,

Chester, June 2, 1655.

H. CROMWELL.

I am now going hence to the place where
the ships ride.
Mr. Brewster came here last night.

An intercepted letter.

To Mr. Samuel Binnell, merchant.

SIR,

I Kindly salute you. I received yours of the 27th, and am very sorry to hear that trade is Vol. xxvii.
so dead with you. It is as bad as bad can be here. I do not look it should mend, whilst P. 35.
things are in this nature; whatsoever you draw or consign to me shall be disposed ac-
cording to your order. Without doubt Spain will break with us. Blake and his fleet are
now before Cadiz. For what money or goods you consign hither may be in good safety.
I would not have you to adventure your own person, for your creditors will be very inqui-
sitive after you, and therefore by all means avoid it.

THOMAS SMITH.

Viole, president of Bruffels, to Barriere.

Bruffels, June 12, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

HIS highness is with his troops observing the marches of the enemy. The archduke Vol. xxvii.
went from thence on Sunday last in the afternoon. The earl of Fuensaldagna went P. 39.
away the same morning. They are to muster their troops together to be in readiness to
oppose the enemy. If they undertake to assault us, it is resolved only to defend ourselves
this summer. The queen of Sweden will not depart from hence for her journey into
Italy till September next. By the next I will send you a cypher. In the mean time be-
lieve to be absolutely

Yours, &c.

Mr.

Mr. Francis Jones to Secretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

A. D. 1655.
 Vol. xxvii.
 P. 43.

BE pleased to excuse these rude lines of mine, since they are intended only to expresse (in some measure) my gratitude for those favours, which by your mediation I have received. I must confesse the crime considered with the aggravation of my relation to his highness, might justly have stopt your eares to those petitions made in my behalfe. Yet your candid receiveing them, and his highness's gracious favour thereby obtained, make not only his mercy and your pittie more illustrious, but it hath oblig'd me to spend what further time shall be given me, in all dutifull obedience to his highness, and with all respectfull service to yourselfe. Those, who rightly understand me, can assure you, that I am not of foe obstinate and unrelenting a nature, as to neede the sorrowes of a long restraint, or the continued threats of death to worke out of me any thing that may conduce to his highness's service, or might give him farther satisfaction; but such is my unhappinesse, that what I have already said as to the fact itselfe, as likewise in my promises of future fidelitty, cannot obtaine that credit with his highness, as to make me reputed an ingenuous and gratefull person. To you therefore I address myselfe, in hopes you will be still instrumentall in procureing from his highness, if not a farther favour towards me, yet at least an oblivion of this unhappy action, for which I now justly suffer, and of those aspersions, which have beene since cast upon me. To that end, I assure you, that in my confession made to his highness and your honourable selfe, I was foe free in all things that came to my knowledge, that to save my life I can say no more; and I do now protest, and upon the honour of a gentleman declare, there is nothing in my breast worthy your knowledge, which I have not already revealed; so that if the faith and honour of a gentleman hath not lost that reputation, which it ever had amongst men, I presume, I shall, in your opinion, stand upright, and will not doubt of your endeavours to vindicate me to my lord protector, who by reason of strange surmises and false suggestions of such as wish me ill, cannot yet be perswaded to have a right understanding of me; neither should I wonder at his distrust of me, weare those calumnies true, with which I am asperfed. For I understand by some of my freinds, that the scandall of a highwayman or notorious robbat hath beene cast upon me, on purpose to deprive me of his highness's mercy, by rendring me a person most unfitt to live, as indeed I weare, could my guiltines of foe unworthy and dishonourable actions be evident to him. But I would defy the whole world, and with much innocence (as to any such base and unworthy action) scorn their reproaches, if I could but expiate this grand offence against his highness, for which I stand condemned. I shall therefore humbly desire you to have a favourable opinion of me, and to continue your mediation to his highness for a pardon, by which you will most highly oblige me and my poore family to pray for his highness and your honour's prosperity, and ever remaine

From Exon goale, June the
 2d, 1655.

Your honor's

most faithfull and obedient servant,

FRANCIS JONES.

SIR,

My brother through his long restraint being very ill, and this time unable to write, hath desired me to present his humble service to you, with his hearty thanks for your favourable opinion of him; and bids me assure you, when any opportunity shall be offered, he will be ready to give you a reall testimony of his gratitude.

A letter from Jamaica.

Jamico, June 3, 1655.

Vol. xxvii.
 P. 47.

BY captain Collins, who carried the state letters in the Malligo merchant, the 17th March last, I writt you from Barbados of all passages to that day, &c. att which time our general and commissioner being displeased with the delays of account so often promised, and then lamely brought in, seeing the necessity of an auditor general, as well for civill as martiall affaires, immediately with one consent voted that needfull place, and unanimously established myself, they commanding my speedy execution thereof; which in one weeke's time I performed to the advantage of the state above 1700 l. sterling, discovered from dark puzzling accounts, to the great content of the commissioners, relief of the army's quarter charged on the treasurers, and honour to myself, which (as yet) I hope to continue with

love and faithfulness to every relations. Saturday 31 March, despairing of our relieve from England, havinge borrowed a few unserviceable armes from the island, wee shipped about 60 saile, and 5000 soldiers, and that night waighed, the next day, weathring St. Vincente, E. S. E. onely inhabited by infidell and caniballs; and one monday 2d April about noone, came to anchor about the middle of St. Lucia for counsell, and giveinge orders; where many off our men landinge, and others with smale galliots espying, cold discover noe plantation or inhabitants, saveinge wild and venomous creatures, in that craggy desert. Tuesday, 3 Aprill, neare noone, wayhed, and that eveninge weathered Martinico, inhabited by French, against which island dyed our generall eldest captaine Disney in the Beare. Wensday, 4 Aprill, wee lay becalmed, south off Dominica, an infidell caniball nation, great enymes to our nation; where captain Leigh's wife was kept prisoner 3 yeares, her husband and many English barborously slaine by those bold people; who now perceivinge some of our vessels to drive nere there shore, a few off them in a cannoo comeinge (friendly counterfeits) nere the ship's side, darted some arrowes amongst our men, gazeinge and admireing their hardy insolency, and quick as thought retreated. Thursday 5 wee passed south by Guardelupa, a small French island, about which N. lyes Casath, and 4 or 5 little islands, with around Cox island uninhabited N. E. Friday 6th wee passed Montserat, planted by English and Irish, off which E. lyeth a smale island uninhabited, and about noone cleared Mevis; and at 2 afternoone made St. Kitts, where the French gave us *bien venu* from all their forts and gunnes, above 30 great shott for salutes; and att eveninge comeing to our English plantations, besides their generall salute, our counsell sent formerly thither coll. Fortescue, coll. Holding, and capt. Butler (havinge made sure peace with the French) with 6 or 7 saile, and 1000 soldiers, came welcome to our fleete, in which intervall I stepped ashore for two howres, viewing the adjacent plantations, which indeed I saw foe industrious neatly manured, that I thought I was in the French gardens, every acre affording a famelly subsistence, noe corne wasted, yet the ground decaying and over-stocked; noe townes nor fit entertainment for our numbers. About 8 ith' eveninge wee filled saile, and saturday 7th of April ith morneinge we passed Saby, a smale Dutch island, from which 7 leagues N. lyes St. Martin's, where Spanyards make false; and afternoone we were becalmed south west of Saby; a high and uninhabited island. The 8th off Aprill wee were comanded by the lee towards some ships afterne, hoping from England, and in 6 howres came up with us the Adam and Eve, which told us off another ship, scarce visible in her sterne, to which wee loofed with all sailes; and at 6 in the eveninge came up with us the Marygold, another dumb beast lag'd behind from St. Lucia (which wee towed to the fleet). The 9th of Aprill wee passed St. Cruz, an English islande, some 6 yeares past all slaine (with capt. Philips the commander) most barbourously by the Spanyard, who now have itt. The 10th of Aprill wee passed St. John's, a rich plentiful island, Porto Rico beeing their harbour, a very safe rydinge and stronge garrison, one off the Spanyards best strength. Wensday and thursday wee hovered of Spaniola in counselle, and concluded the certaine possession thereof without blowes; shareinge the lyon's liveing skin with such assurance, as I verily beleve much displeased our gracious God, that hitherto hath brought us safe, and by commissioner Winsloe's (alwaies unresistable) affirmative, ordereth death for any foldier to plunder or deminish the least vallue; which beeing proclaymed at the landinge, proved fatall to the army. One regiment of seamen joyned with us our best counsells to run into the harbour and towne off St. Domingo suddenly before knowledge of our approach, had certainly carried our busines, but mr. Winsloe (who would not be contradicted) feringe any to have spoile save himselfe, pretendinge all for publick treasure, would not suffer itt; whereby wantinge certaine guides for a neerer landinge place, itt was concluded to land att Cassado bay with 6 regiments and a halve; the other halfe regiments off coll. Holdip's and coll. Buller's hover about the harbour, to amuse the enemy, while the maine army landed, which on saturday was done safe and without blowes. The seamen noe sooner hereinge proclaimed, noe plunder, laid downe armes, and foe most of the army by the example; and though much sweetnes used by the generall and officers, noe cordials could mittigate that poisonn; yet seeminge cheerfull, they marched that day, funday and monday, through rough woods, some savannaes, and rich valleys; a plentiful island, but very scarce watered; which with the heat and hard marching parched all with drought. Monday, 17th of April, coll. Buller's regiment, with 500 of coll. Holdip's, landed in a bay safe, neere a stronge fort, where sir Francis Drake formerly landed, about 10 miles from the towne Domingo, and approaching that forte, the enemy quitted, leaveing two great gunnes dismounted, and walles (what foe suddenly they could dismantled) which made coll. Buller pursue his march towards the towne, through the narrow passses off the wood, by a guide misled to some plantations vacant and waterlesse, nere a stronge forte 3 miles off the towne. No sooner was coll. Buller marched from Drake's landing, past call or view, but the general with the maine army (after 30 miles tedious weary march) came hungry, thirsty, tired, and beeing informed by a message

A. D. 1655. from reare admiraile, who rode there, to secure that forte, landinge place, and watering; that coll. Buller was marched to the towne, and they beeing come into the passe off the river, forded by coll. Buller, which the army cold nott then find fordable, the generall immediatly marched along the river to a sugar worke, lodging that night upona savanna, without water, 7 miles from coll. Buller; and next day, tuesday 18th, marched and mett with coll. Buller, neere the stronge fort in the towne road, where the enemy had ambuscadoed and lyned the wood, fell on our forlorne, killed adjutant generall Walters, capt. Jennings, commander off the reformed, capt. Watts off the sea regiment, capt. Cox of the fyerlockes, the generall's secretary mr. Temple, the commissioners subsecretary mr. Murfurd, who all with the generall fearelessly expected no such salutes; yett by God's mercy and providence his excellency was miraculously preserved. The army then enraged beat the enemy, tooke his ground, and recovered all the bodyes; and had not extremity of thirst, hunger, weariness and night resisted, wold that night have entred the towne; but necessity hath noe lawe, all impatiently cryed water, and many fainted, which regretfully caused a retreat att tenn at night, and noe knowne water nerer then Drake's landing place (with a strong rare guard to preserve [the fainty sicke men] came wensday to the said river and forte, to the shiping, and there refreshed our wearied limbes and fainting spirrits in consultatione, untill tuesday the 25th of Aprill. The sea generall all this while hovering before the towne 4 or 5 leagues off the forte, where mr. Winsloe beeing, no consultations cold come to account without his and generall Penn's stamp, which made our noble and unwearied generall to have so many dangerous passages in little brigateenes to loofe windward for their consenting advise, which every tyme differing, caused soe much delay, embased the soldiers, encouradged our enemy, and gave them tyme for all possible resistance, to encrease their number, effect their counsell, and espy our weaknes, wee havinge noe intelligence, knowledge of the country, our cheife guide, capt. Cox, slaine, feeding on the worst saltest beefe unwatered, withall the moldy brown dirty biskett, allowing us noe brandy or comfortable licquor, caused such imoderate desire off water, which (that river coming from a copper mine) afforded rather to encrease then quench thirst, and the raines nightly powring, with fogges and dewes along river, soe soaked our bodyes with flux, and none escaping that violence, that our refreshment proved a weakeninge, instead of support. However another march was resolved, a smale mortar peece (borrowed at Barbados) with ten shells, two smale drakes, and some blunderbusses, got ashore; a very little proportion off brandy to chere our men (which a good spoone might have held one share) then highly fluxing, noe harnesse nor horses to draw, but all drawne by soldiers; mattocks and spades carried by other soldiers, which with there callabashes off water, snapsackes, bad armes, &c. spent our strongest men, and rendered the weake unserviceable. Tuesday, 25th of Aprill, wee marched, lay that night in the woods. Wensday, the 26th, adjutant generall Jackson, commandinge 400, its forlorne advanced neere the forte to the towne, where disobeyinge his orders, to have two winges in each side the wood, for discovering the ambuscadoes, and cowardly neglectinge the duty off his place (I doubt treacherously) to lead the party (put captain Butler (a stout, but unexperienced soldier for such a designe) to lead the forlorne, who innocently fell into their ambuscado; but most bravely behaveing himselfe with his division, fought itt to death, and very orderly brought up his men till slaine. Soe did capt. Powlet of the fyerlockes fight to death; which Jackson seeinge fall, instead off reliefe, faced about, and most bassely run away. Thereupon immediatly all the forlorne, like a torrent in a narrow passage straitned, or a sudden or a furious wave in a rough sea, nay indeed lightninge, the whole forlorne tumbled into the reformed; they all as suddenly into the horse, they all mixt like a masse in soe narrow a passe, nott able to containe above six abreast (the close thicke woodes encompassinge the sides where the enemy was lodged to flanke us) and the great fort gunnes loaded with smale shot, bitts off iron, broken pistoll barrells, and all such mischiefe, had full power and sure ayme all alonge that narrow passe; which soe routed all them, they in the same moment the generall's owne regiment. Never was any thinge so wedged as wee, which made the enemy weary with killinge; and had not the reare parte off major generall Haynes's regiment drawne into the wood, and soe counterflanked (beating backe the enemy to the fort, regaineinge all the ground, bodies and ambuscadoes, even under and beside the very forte, which was maintained all night) our whole army had beene in that sudden motion disordered and confused. Jackson sneakt into the bushes, like an old fox, and saved himselfe. Our most gallant, noble, and valliant major generall Haynes, with whome, and nere his person (by his own great desire) I was myselfe all this while, was slaine, launced through the body, yet regained and brought of by his owne regiment. This was a great losse, as the major generall his lieutenant coll. Clarke dyeing of those wounds, the most expert soldier and best major Ferginson to the generall's regiment, captain Butler, captain Powlet, captain Hinde, captain Hancocke, and many lieutenants, ensignes, and all the reformed, onely 17 excepted, that got into the woods, and many hundred soldiers, with losse off

9 colours, that is the reformade's, captain Powlet's firelocks, the generall's regiment 5, and major generall's 2, to the great dishonour of ourselves and nation; yett what God will must be done, and this our affliction, I hope, will turne to mercyes, if wee bee humbled as wee ought. Thursday, 27th of Aprill, early ith morneinge, our generall demaunded from captain Hughes, whether he could play the mortar peece? who answered noe, for the fort had such comand over all those places, that wold beate them from it: this I heard him say and confesse; whereupon consideringe the soldiers weaknesse, want of victuals, and most of water, as also the former discouragement, a retreat was privately concluded, a stronge reare guard appointed, the 10 mortar shells neatly buried, our mortar-peece, drakes, spades, shovels, and all drawne off, and wee safely that day all gott our old landing place and forte. Here wee stayed our generalls, many goeing to general Penn and mr. Winsloe, and every returne created new counselle; the raines encreasinge, our men weakninge, all even to death fluxinge, the seamen aboard neglecting, that forced us to eate all our troope horses (the enemy denying all releife, triumphinge) and these miseries encreasing, our counselle resolved by seekinge God to purge the army. First Jackson, found guilty of cowardise, had his sword broke over his head for a coward, his commission taken away, and expulst the army, and to bee swabber to hospitall ships off sicke people, which was accordinge done. Some women found in mens apparel were punished, and all suspected whores (Barbados and those plantations yeilding fewe else) narrowly sought after; all officers and soldiers stricktly commanded to observe duty, upon greatest paines; one of major generall (now Fortescue) foldiers, proved to run away, hanged; and indeed like a wise prudent generall all thinges by him ordered; yett our sicknes encreasing, itt was resolved againe to ship, and soe directly for Jamico, where God hath owned us. I cannott omitt to expresse somethinge concerninge this great busines, which I am sure the world will mistake in reportinge; but my selfe beinge a present eye witnes there on the place, and amongst the crowd, in the midst off danger, near major generall's person, I have not, neither shall I, relate any thinge but what I know for certaine truth. I know a threefold cord cannot bee easily broken; but where they twist not equally together, they many tymes cut one another; and this I am sure, that in martiall affaires, where commands execute like lightnings, and those variable as the windes, accordinge as the present emergency requires, and not for consent off others, to the losse off all, I well know his highnes wold never submitt, in all his past actions, to such curbs, nor can brave designes ever succeed with such bridles, which I hope to bee amended. The uncharitableness of our reare admirall will not suffer my sylence, for att that tyme weere by order shipped from Espaniola, hee did furiously and most unchristian like say, before good witnes, where are there cowardly Spanyards now? Will they nott come and cut off theis army rouges, that wee may noe more bee troubled with them? And his owne leutenant, my former acquaintance, beinge by accident aboard the ship where I came into weake and soe ill nott able to stand, after salutes and some discourse, told mee to my face (like to his profession) wee were all over-board, that they might be rid of us againe; speakeing the very same words to captain Fincher in his extremety off weaknes, and alsoe to others. And many such vile unworthy expressions have many off that religion, I mean anabaptists, exprest against us and the power wee act under, domineering because off their present commands at sea, takeing liberty to talke what they please, as indeed wee find by their actions, accordinge to their powers against, &c. And I must needs acknowledge it a very great mercy, that God did us in Espaniola, in comparison of this island wee are now in; for that beinge much bigger then England, most or all off itt woode and mountaines, and many enemies disperfedley scattered, that our small numbers cold not sepearate to beate them quite off, nor bee able to plantt the one thousand parte ourselves, and itt lyinge soe much windward from Cuba, this place, and especially the maine, wee should never bee able to loofe it up againe for any provision, or with prizes; whereas this island abounds more in all fertillity, and not one quarter soe bigge, but lyes in the very heart off the Spaniard to gall him. The 3d off May wee parted from Espaniola, and thursday, 10th of May, anchor'd in theis harbour off Jamico, a safe, secure ridinge for 500 saile of the greatest ships, landlockt sufficient. That night wee landed all our army in the teeth of the enemy at his very forte, where he had 9 peece ordnance severally placed, with 500 defendents, who seeinge our resolution, most cowardly forooke, and gave us all without any bloodshed, with two smale vessells near the forte. The 11th May we entred this towne Jamico, they haveinge conveyed all theire portable riches, with wives, children and servants, into the mountaines, from whence thinkinge wee came (as coll. Jackson formerly did) to victuall, plunder, and soe be gone, they, I say, sent divers persons, pittifully complayning, desiring to know our wants, and humbly begging a treaty; which, considering the weaknes off our army, unfixt and unserviceable armes, never a horse to pursue, our men faint and tired much worfe by pittifull usage on ship-board, the enemy horse all in full strenght, and knowing the country, itt was resolved to treat; and they by pre-contract brought us in as

A. D. 1655. need required cattle enough. This held a full weeke, and being concluded, signed and sealed by all the treators and the Spanish governor to boote, he with three cheifes more are hostages for performance; but when the articles were sente to their campe to come in, lay downe armes, bee transported to Spaine, with nothinge but clothes on their backes, leaveinge all manner of their goods, wealth, and riches, to us, denyed obedience, are fled scattrring to the mountaines, saying, they were all borne here, have noe acquaintance or friends in Spain to relieve them, and soe resolved rather to dye here then begg there, which will put us to some trouble to expell them; like your tories in Ireland, or mosse troopers in Scotland, whoe may mischiefe our stragglers, but dare not face the smallest party, and will keepe us wakeinge to mind our duty as soldiers, and humble ourselves before God, that hee give us not into their hands. This island farre exceeds all others in America for fertillity in all manner of thingse, fruits and cattle, horses soe good as any in England, and I thinke farre more plentyfull, and beene by millions not to be numbred, the Spanish fleete victualling here allwayes; some good sugar workes, Indian corne, rice, and all sortes of rare fruite in abundance; but the casado for bread onely planted for their owne numbers, which untill wee encrease to our numbers is most wee shall want; salte all alonge the shore, most white and fine that ever I saw, makes itself; infinite and most plentiful of fowle and fish, many brave rivers, rich pastures, woods, and indeed in all thinges farre exceeding any place I saw or read of, onely a little heat, which is finely tempered with coole breezes, most troubles us yet at first; tobacco, none better in the world, grows here; but the lazy Spanyard cares onely for himself, and improves no further, which I hope now will bee better manured, to the greater benefite of ourselves and nation. Wee are informed, cloves, nutts, and mace, and cinnamon grows here. I'ame sure I see and have cassia, tamerine, and cocoa-nutts, with all fruits imagined, and some say gold and silver mines; all which I thinke probable, nature denyng in gross nothinge here, which shee hath scattered in all other places by parcells; and the richest wines in the world may grow here, iff wee had plantes; onely iron, lead, and flint, we wante, with manufactures for cloathing. Certainly silke wormes wold prosper bravely. I shall hereafter, when I better know the nature off the country, give further advice. Wee have houses, lands, meate, water sufficient, and want servants to plant and manure it. This my friend, mr. Hardwick, the ship just reddey to goe, I can enlarge noe more, but must of necessity put this trouble upon you, that you cause to be write severall copyes, and sente as followeth: one to my wife, if she bee at London, you will find or heare of her att my cosen mr. Nathaniel Stirrop's howse in Aldersgate-street, otherwise at her howse in Ipswich; another copy to my brother, coll. William Daniel, governor of St. Johnson's in Scotland; another copy to my mother, mrs. Christian Daniel, at her howse Tably, neare Knottsforde in Cheshyer; and to write every one of them particularly the reason of my not writing to them, having noe tyme, the ship beeing just goeing; but I shall to all of them by other ships that goe for England next, making choise of you now, as I ever have done, for owne of my best and chiefeest friends. You must also either give my cosen Stirrop a cotype hereof, or lett him have tyme to write one himselfe; and satisfye him, that the oportunitys are more speedy for my lord protector's view, then his can bee, and this may chance give his highness some satisfaction of the affaires here, thoe from so unworthy a penn as myne. I have not else but my dearest respects to yourself and your sweet bedfellow, and all other friends that wish well unto

Your most obliged and very humble servant,

J. DANIELL.

You pardon errors, and picke out the fence, haveing not tyme to examen itt.

A letter of intelligence.

Rome, June 14, 1655. [N.S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 685.

YOURS are come safe by this post, by which I see all is quiet in England, which is now confessed here; and the protector's gallant proceedings in all his affairs, for which he is recommended here by most. But that transplantation in Ireland carries more clamour than is fit to be spoken, so I leave it. Of a general peace nothing since my former. The pope is become man; for by some private friends, that house of pleasure of cardinal of Montalto in Frescati is lately bought. Also the palace of the said cardinal Montalto in this city is upon buying by another secret friend of his holiness, which gives subjects of several discouries in this city, that all is done for his holiness; for few are able to buy such places, or to make use of them, when they have them; and therefore concluded all is bought by the pope for his nephews.

Four marquisses are come hither from Vienna, named embassadors, to congratulate the pope's election, which the duke of Florence takes not well, being his subjects. Yet not to displease the pope, he is content it may pass so now without precedent, conditionally that his own resident in the court of Rome introduce them to his holiness, as it was accordingly done. A. D. 1655.

Cardinal de Harrach is returned to his residence at Prague.

The governor of Milan moves not against Modena, seeing that duke stirs not yet. The duke of Parma got 12,000 pistols from the Spaniards upon his guard, in case Modena should attempt a passage through his estates. The said duke of Parma's palace here has up both the king of Spain's and the emperor's arms, which is all the news at this time, from,

Sir, yours, &c.

The Swedish resident to the states general.

Lectum Junii 14, 1655. [N. S.]

POSTquam felici numinis auspicio sacra regia majestas, dominus clementissimus, rerum potitus, imperium regni Sueciæ suscepisset, summâ semper curâ sibi propositum habuit, sinceram stabilemque cum regni Sueciæ vicinis amicis et confœderatis amicitiam et necessitudinem servare inviolatam, idque quibusvis occasionibus certis adfirmare documentis, sacra regia majestas, dominus meus clementissimus, antehac quidem celsitudinem dominorum ordinum generalium fœderati Belgii, de prospero suo ad gubernacula imperii accessu per literas certiore reddidit. Veruntamen, quo sacra regia majestas, dominus meus clementissimus, singularis sui et candidi in celsitudinem dominorum ordinum generalium fœderati Belgii animi affectus majorem fidem faceret, et quantum illos existimaret ulterius significaret, non potuit non me huc amandare, ut nomine sacre regie majestatis, domini mei clementissimi, idem celsitudini dominorum ordinum generalium fœderati Belgii coram insinuarem cum voto prosperi omnium rerum successus, quo in firmo et pacifico rerum statu cum proprio juxta amicorum confœderatumque bono atque emolumento diu feliciterque floreat: itaque sicut sacre regie majestatis majores et antecessores fœderati Belgii amicitiam maximi semper habuerint momenti, ambæque nationes maximo cum fructu profectum inde commodum cum securitate atque libertate commerciorum navigationisque expertæ, consilium sacre regie majestatis domini mei clementissimi est, cum laudandis illorum exemplis, tum proprio motu, confidentem illam amicitiam, tam longo temporis tractu stabilitam, non tantum confirmare, sed et occasionem quærere, qua tam salutaris unio ad utriusque partis satisfactionem atque utilitatem imposterum magis excoletur atque accrescat; deinde quod celsitudo dominorum ordinum generalium fœderati Belgii liberâ voluntate et proprio instinctu prompta officia per suos deputatos ad componendos exortos inter sacram regiam majestatem et civitatem ejus Bremensem motus obtulerint (quod alias incendium per malevolorum fomentationes majori inflammatione totum fortassis imperium Romanum atque circumjacentes nationes involvisset) haud parum sacre regie majestatis, domini mei clementissimi, animum sibi novo hoc amicitie officio duplici nomine devinxerunt, cum propter magnos in eo factos sumptus, tum quod sacra regia majestas, dominus meus clementissimus, ab omni illius belli cura vacuus secundum præsentem apud exterarum in vicinitate nationes rerum faciem, suis jam domi tantum rebus prospicere necessum habeat. Quam ob causam ante omnia mihi in mandatis datum est, singulares celsitudini dominorum ordinum generalium fœderati Belgii gratias referre, et sicut certissimum illud fuerit illorum amicitie et secundæ in sacram regiam majestatem voluntatis argumentum, grata id sacra regia majestas, dominus meus clementissimus, tenere se memoria, suaque reciproca celsitudini dominorum generalium fœderati Belgii officia, quocunque id modo ipsorum interesse possit, numquam efutura pollicetur; sic sacre regie majestati, domino meo clementissimo, maximè cordi esse, sinceram cum celsitudine dominorum ordinum generalium fœderati Belgii et confidentem semper amicitiam colere atque stabilire.

Signat

GUSTAVUS SPAAR.

General Venables and capt. Gregory Butler to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

HOPING you have received long before this the exact account wee sent you by captain Collins from the Barbados, as well of all our transactions there, as of our extraordinary wants of several things most necessary to be had, (which we cannot but be confident, you will supply very speedily, since they daily encrease more and more upon us) wee thinke it convenient to begin there, where wee then ended; and so continue the narrative of our proceedings. According to our resolution intimated to your highness in our letter,

VOL. III.

6 O

letter,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 67.

A. D. 1655.

letter, we departed from Barbados within few days after the date thereof, and in our way passing by Christophers, we took up a regiment there, and the 14th day from our weighing anchor arrived at Hispaniola, where we landed without delay; but by reason of the absence of our guide, so far off of the town, that it made our attempt thereon unsuccessful; for it being thirty long miles march, both officers and soldiers, what through want of water, what through the excessive heat of the climate, (which was the more intolerable, by reason that our march lay all the way through close tall woods, that kept all manner of breeze from us) and what through eating of oranges or other fruits by the way, were most of them so far spent and tired, that they could hardly stand upon their legs, being for the most part troubled with violent fluxes, hundreds of our men having dropt down by the way, some sick, others dead, so that we lost no inconsiderable number in that march, besides our giving time to the enemy to fortify themselves in the town, and our driving no small part of them before us. Nor could this possibly be prevented, our only guide Cox being dispatched away before to scout for intelligence, and returning too late, by reason of contrary winds, that kept him from us; nor could we possibly get any intelligence, either of the ways, or of the state of the town, none of the negroes coming in to us, and the enemy keeping so close, that none of them could possibly be surprized, at least of such as could give us any good account. Thus in want of guides, intelligence, water, we made a shift, though heartless and spiritless, to creep (for so it may be justly filed) within a mile of the fort, where we met with our guide Cox, who was killed the very first bout by an ambuscade; so that missing of water there, where Cox promised to find us out some, we were forced to retreat back (both men and beasts perishing through want thereof) to the river Hyne, some six miles from thence, where we endeavoured for two or three days to give our men some refreshment, as well of victuals from the fleet, as water from the river; but they were too much spent to be put in heart so soon again. Yet lest we should give the enemy too much time, we put ourselves upon a second march, adjutant general Jackson having the command of the forlorn, consisting of about 400, who behaved himself so unworthily both in disobeying of his orders, and discouraging of his men, by keeping in the rear, when he should have been in the van (for which he was cashiered by a council of war) that the greatest part of them were cut off by another ambuscade; they flying, and disordering by their tumultuous and confused flight, two of the regiments, that followed them, it being in a narrow lane, where three or four only could march abreast. At this second bout we lost major general Heane, major Fergison, and several other prime officers; whereby the soldiers were so much disheartened, that there was no possibility of drawing them on any further; so that it was unanimously agreed upon by the officers, and assented unto by the commissioners, that some other place should be thought upon; and accordingly we pitched upon Jamaica, where, through God's blessing, we now are, but in none of the happiest conditions, the enemy lurking in the woods, and keeping the cattle and other provisions from us, but only what we gain from day to day at the point of our swords. And though we could get flesh at an easier rate, yet the continual apprehension we are in of the want of bread, which daily diminisheth considerably, cannot but trouble us extremely; for though two of our store-ships (through a very seasonable mercy and providence) arrived hither lately, yet the bread they brought us is so inconsiderable, that it will but serve the army for 22 days at half allowance; and to say the truth, the remainder of all the provisions of the fleet, by nearest computation, is but three months victuals for them alone. As for New England, though we are a dispatching thither with all speed for a supply, we are assuredly informed, that what we are like to receive from thence will be altogether inconsiderable to the number of mouths we are to feed. The want we have been in hitherto of bread (we not being able to be suddenly supplied therewith out of the fleet, or our stores, through want of waggons and other conveniences for transportation thereof) joined with the drinking of water, hath already cast both officers and soldiers into such violent fluxes, that they look more like dead men crept out of their graves, than persons living; and this so generally, that we have not above two colonels in health, three majors, some seven field officers in all; besides many have been already swept away with this disease; so that we extremely fear, lest we shall suddenly want officers fit to command our soldiers. As for this island of Jamaica (that we may acquaint your highness with every thing that is material;) by its situation it lyeth more advantageously for annoying the Spaniard on every side, than Hispaniola; neither is it inferiour in itself, for we find it to abound with store of fish, fowls, cattle, fruits of all sorts usual in these parts; and are informed further by one of the chiefeft and oldest inhabitants of the country, that there is a silver mine here, as also one of copper, lately discovered, besides, some grains of gold have been found likewise. The climate is more temperate than that of Hispaniola, by reason of its lying more open to the eastern breeze; nor is it less fruitful in any respect. The posture we stand in for the present in relation to the enemy, is this; upon our approach, they fled with

with their wives, children and goods into the mountains, leaving the bare town to our possession; but not long after we were entered, they sent some of their chief men to treat with us. Yet they having broken their promises and engagements made to us, we sent out a party to fetch in their governor; whereupon we made them to subscribe to the like articles with those they gave us at Providence. But though we have their governor and other chief men of the island in our custody, as hostages, they have nevertheless treacherously broken with us, and have driven away their cattle, putting us by that means to a hard shift, and cutting us out a great deal of work, by forcing us at once to provide for our selves, and pursue them; notwithstanding we hope to reduce them perfectly ere it be long (having already sent out strong parties for that purpose) for they are not in any condition to stand out, but feed themselves with hopes of escaping to Cuba, which we will endeavour to prevent by sending away of brigantines. The reason of our dismissing part of the fleet home is, that we feared, that we should never be able to victual them all; so that we judged it best to retain only some of the swiftest sailors here with us, sending the rest away. We had almost forgot to acquaint your highness, that we lost mr. Winslow, very suddenly in our sailing towards this island, of a fever. Now having represented unto your highness the whole story of our proceedings, we shall expect your further commands and directions for what we are to do, as being

Your highness's most humble

Jamaica, June 4, 1655.

and faithful servants,

R. VENABLES.

GREGORY BUTLER.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to his father.

London, June 14, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

THE letter, which you were pleased to write to me the ninth, caused me to read over Vol. xxvii. my last letters to the court, to see whether they gave full hope and assurance of a speedy conclusion; and I find, that all those, that do speak favourably of it, do end with some mistrust, that this government would use all manner of ways to prolong the same; and if you have a copy of the last, which contained the news, that the articles of the treaty were resolved on, and that my commissioners had sent me word, that they would sign as soon as the articles were writ out fair, you will find, that I gave great suspicion, that under the pretence of the disorders happened in Savoy, the lord protector might chance to delay a while longer my negotiation, and that I demanded precise orders in that case. But it seems, that the lords of the court do take what they please out of my letters, and forget the rest, to have a little to reproach me, that I do advise them, that their business is done, which did never yet happen to be so; neither could I write it, unless I would speak against my own judgment. But I could not forbear giving an account every week, to make a relation of the result of the conferences, which I had had with my commissioners; whereof the last have given place to the whole world, to believe the peace to be concluded. And unless a man could penetrate into the secrets of the ministers of this state, or narrowly examine their proceedings towards me, it would be very hard not to be deceived. So likewise I do not wonder, that his eminence hath advice from several parts; yet however I do not believe, that he hath better advice than mine; at least it hath not appeared to me hitherto. You know by the rules of policy one must affect sometimes to be well informed; and likewise to have different opinions from those of the under-ministers, to the end that in all events they may say, that they were better informed. But without doubt, if they will do me the favour as to read over my letters, they will find, that I did foresee all that would happen in my treaty, and then I make no doubt, but right shall be done me. And if my last letters did give more hope than they should have done, it was after they had given me so many positive answers, and many reasons, which did concur to make me believe them to be sincere. Besides, I had word sent me to retreat, if there were no hope. And I am still persuaded, that it is the interest of this government to accommodate. If they will still use delays after the answer, which the protector expects from the king, and the court do not approve of my treaty, I should be glad I might have precise orders sent me for my retreat; and as soon as I have them, I will presently be gone. And I do also intend to write to his eminence and the earl of Brienne about my own business in the same terms, as you desire of me, both for my money and my future subsistence.

I do

A. D. 1655.

I do not write by this post to the court. It is said for certain here, that the army is putting the legislative power upon the lord protector, which the kings never had but with joint interest with the parliament; and, it seems, to uphold their design, they have sent for extraordinary troops to defend their cause, in case any should hinder him.

The governor of Elizabeth Castle to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol xxvii.
p 83.

UPON fryday last beeing June the 29th, I received your highnes two letters by mr. Dewell, mrs. Lilborne's father; and upon saturday he and I went to Mount Neyville Castle, where lieutenant collonel Lilborne and his father-in-lawe and myselfe had a long discourse with him, but to litle purpose; soe wee rode out againe the monday following. These are to give your highnes an accompt, but not such a one as I wish I could; for I cannot but report, that he is the very same man as formerly; I see no alteration, though endeavored by the honest ould gent'lman his father-in-lawe, and afterward tryed by myselfe, to see what compliyanse there would be in him to his freinds desires. He protested against all wayes, and saith, he will owne none for his liberty, but by the waie of the lawe; and that was the summe of all that his father or myselfe could have of him. His father was saying to him, as though your highnes was speaking of removing him to the isle of Wight; to that, he said, he would assent unto, and that was all that he complied with his father-in-law, as I remember. And truly I have this to say for that, that I conceive it the liklyest way to bring his spirit to be meek and quiet, is, that he beeing in some garrison there, or elsewhere, neare home, that some of his soberest and wisest freinds might come to him and deale with him by arguments and perswasions one after another; for to his temper I see none but such a waie will do any good, nor prevaill with him, for ought I can see. Possible your highnes may thinke, that I speake this to be quitt of him out of this place. No trewly, my lord, I do not; but I speake it from my soule, I thinke it the best way, and that nothing else in my apprehension will prevaile with him (if that do) though indeed I have cause enough to desire him remooved from this place, for he is more trouble then tenn such as Ashburnham. Besids, I have such a people to deale withall here, that you would commiserate me, did you see there conditions, and my souldiers many disorders, notwithstanding I have punished divers of them; so that I dare say, there is never a three garrisons in England have the trouble I have here; but I question not in keeping them clos to the English interest, and with God's assistance to go through the worke, and in some tyme to have things in a more quiet posture. I had forgot one thing, that he had said upon his father-in-lawe pressing him to forbear determinyng to have all things his owne way, and to refrayne his reproachful words, he replied, the lawe was his way, but yet he would referr the difference (as he called it) between your highnes and himselfe to my lord Rowles and my lord St. Johns, or to fowre understanding Christians. I ask'd him, what then, would he sett down by it? He sayed, aye. But I do much question it. This he had said formerly to me. But I thought it not a seemely thing for him to offer an arbitration, and unlikely that he would sett downe by it, except it liked his humour, which made me forbear writing of it. Wherein I have done or wrott amifs I beseech you to pardon. I am,

My lord,

Elizabeth Castle, June 4, 1655.

your most humble

and faithfull servant,

ROBERT GIBBON.

Yesterday mr. Ashburnham's man came with your highnes order to remoove him to Deal Castle. He is this day preparing to go by the first opportunity after this vessell.

Mr. R. Aldworth to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

V. xxvii.
p 87.

MY last unto you was of the 8th currant, giving you notice, that monsieur de Merkure with his ships and gallyes had taken the castle of Cope de Quies, which is near Roza, with the los of 400 souldiers, although a place of small consideration; that he had succored Roza, and was returned to Thollon with his ships; only the gallyes still abroad, and

and the rest of the fleete is fitting as speedily as possible they can; butt may not be ready this 5 weeks. It's most probable their designe is against Barcelona in Cattalonia, in regard my advice from Leorne of the 7th currant gives mee notice, that att Naples the Spaniard is fitting 8 ships with all dilligence, to carry foot soldiers to Barcelona; the French hath already 10000 horse and foot in Cattalonia, and more will sudainly follow, which are rayling in the provinces of Langadock. The advise of general Blake's being about Mayorke and Ivique is since confirmed by a barke of this place, that arrived thence 4 dayes past. Att this instant I come from speaking with the admirall Vandoisme for the releasment of the English ships; his answer was, the peace was not yett finisht 'twixt our states and the king of France. I then produced him the king's order for their releasment, which I lately received from Paris. So hee demanded three dayes to give his answer, in which tyme hee will be heare. I hope hee will use noe farther delayes, of which I shall give you notice in my next. In the meane tyme humbly take leave, and remayne

Your honnor's servant,

JO. ALDWORTH.

Att this instant is arrived a barke from the Levant, who reports, that he mett beyond Malta 24 ships, which were conceived to bee English. They was making towards Tripoly.

My advise from Smirna, of the 31st Aprill, gives me notice, that the English merchants theare and in other parts of Turkey are very doubtfull the grand seignor will trouble them, by reason of general Blake's proceedings at Tunis.

In Marfeillia, June 15, 1655. [N. S.]

A letter of intelligence.

Hamb. June 5, S. V. [1655.]

THE Swedish forces in these parts have now received orders to march (as it's said) Vol. xx. for Pomerania, whence their generall rendezvous is still appointed. We long to see p. 207, them a little further off, and to know their reall design, which is so variously interpreted here, as that we know not which to give credit unto. Some are still of opinion, their intentions are only against Prusia; others are perswaded to believe they will make use of this fair opportunity to press their action upon the lands of Culick, Cleve, and Berghe, and that their head design is against Silesia and the rest of the Emperor's hereditary dominions. And there want not those also, who dare boldly affirm their real intention to be to joine with Denmark in opposition to the states of Holland, to exclude them wholly out of the Sound. But this of any seems to be farthest from reason, nor can we shew any great warrant for either of these opinions, which are not to be grounded upon, untill the action itself confirms the truth of one another.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to de Thou.

June 15. 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

I Do not wonder at what you write me in your letter of the 8th, concerning the inclinations Vol. xxvii. of the lord ambassador Nieuport. I have had time enough to learn them; and in p. 115. some rencounters he was not able to conceal his opinion. But that is no great harm for France; for though they should happen to break with us, yet we shall not be thereby much incommoded. It is more to be wondered, that the states general should stand so much upon their punctilios; and that they should make a halt, who shall execute it. I can assure you, that the lord protector doth not approve of this conduct. He spoke to me this afternoon very openly, and well, in other terms than monsieur Nieuport doth use in his letters to his superiors. He disowneth, that he ever found fault at the leisure made in France, nor at our conduct, which we held in their regard, and doth formalize himself no less than we of their inclination to favour the affairs and commerce of Spain. This declaration, confirmed by the orders, which he gave very exactly, to stop all ships, which come or go for the Canaries, and by the proceedings of the admiralty court here, the merchant ship called the morning star, which came lately from St. Cruz in Tenerif, was taken, and brought into Milford harbour; for the clearing whereof the states general have very much insisted; yet the same will run a hazard of being condemned.

VOL. III.

6 P

Mr.

Mr. Thomas Noell to Martin Noell, esq;

Mr. Martine Noell and loving brother,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvii.
P. 91.

SIR, yesterday being the 4th of instant came in advyce boate from the fleete; which news hath begott a very sad spiritt through up our whole island, their successe being so exceedingly contradictorilye to all expectations in their attempts upon Santo Domingo, the uttermost of whose forces, as by good intelligence both here given them, as also by one that came emediatly from them whom they met with att St. Christophers, as also by severall that came unto them at their arivall att Hispaniola; all whom did conceive that there force there exceeded not 3000 men in all, Whites, Negroes, and Indians; and that they expected them not till they saw them: there unhappineffe was that they sayled 7 days before the island, before they recovered there port, by which time the Spaniards had knowledge of them, and made provision for them, and funcke ships in the road, whereby they weare denied speddy passage unto them; and then the unhapineffe of there resolves weare, they failed 10 leagues from them, when they might have with much safeti, with a little hazard landed within too; where some men thei did land, and upon the new resolves toucke aboard agayne with little hazard; but landing so farr weare forced to march thirtie miles on shoare to meete the enimie, who was not resolved to march towards them out of the towne. Our Forlorne Hope marched on under the command of adjutant Jackson, who did not mannage them with sufficient valeor, but brought them of with an unhandsome retreate upon there reserves, who they also disordered to more then a retreating posture, never firing; but before this general Venebles, with captain Cox, one mr. Temple and Murford, the one his secritary, goeing to view the towne, and fort, and avenewes, for the better conducting of there forces upon them, weare sett on by a fally from the towne, where Cox was killed, and the 2 before named gentlemen, and the general hardly escaped. This, I beleave, did stricke a dampe upon the speritts of the folders, togather with the removall of there object, which was hope of plunder; the proclamation of the forbidding of which att the head of each rejement was not, I feare, feasonably done: for as by privete hands, I am informed, they did much murmer against it. In this first attempt was major general Haynes ingaged, whom when all run from him, and some few officers would not fly from it, but himselfe ingaged 8 persons, slewe one in the place, who was found dead by him, wounded the rest, by whom he himself was also killed. He cried out, that if but 6 would stand with him, he doubted not to put them all to a shamefull retreate, but thei would not stand. The forces, that thus putt the shame upon our army, yow may judge the number of them, when capt. Haines his son with twentie horse routed them, and fetcht of his father's dead bodi. The preffoners toucke report, they weare not above 300, that did this exploit upon us. By the master of the advyce boate and some others it is reported, that the seamen and the Barbadoes regiment have desired to passe upon the dutye, and either to the towne carry or lay there bones there. But I do perseve by the generall's letters they are drawne off from the towne and designe for Jemeco; and to that purpose have order'd all shipes there to seecke them; but Goodsonne and others writt doubtfully, whether thei will so doe ore noe; but I hope, that the shipes, all of whom thei expect by this time, are salli arived with them; and I hope Webberli and others within few houres after this advyce boat's departure from them, which was 6th of May; I say, the arivale of all those shipes, I hope, will begett fresh corage and new resolves in them; especially when thei shall see that arive with there last dispatches ordered to be left here, and sent for England (viz.) there artillerie and ordinances, and there provisions of warr and all other there nessari provisions. But I doe perforce the generall is much discoraged with his common folderie for there cowardice. Indeed it is generally by all privitt letters and persons, that have come hether, reported and sayd, our men weared with there long march, and faint-ed with there exceeding thirst for want of water; infomuch, that many fell downe by the way in there march; and soe with one drame of brandye recovered strenght to cawle. I shall not condemn any for the conduct; but it is much sensured by mani, in that thei marcht so great a bodi, not lesse by there muster roles then 10000 men, horse and foote, in so smale a battalia, even but 10 abreft, by which meanes there forlorne rowted there reserve, and there reserve there maine batalia, which had thei marcht in winges, the one might have supplied and assisted the others. The totall accompt of the busines I doe preshume you will have an accompt of before this by a shipe dispatched from the fleete for England, for the purpasse; to which larger accompt I referre yow.

For the perticuler busines coll. Goodson hath ordered all the goods not sent to him, and yett in port, shall be unshipped and disposed here; to which purpose he hath made his request to the governor for that purpose, who hath ordered, that all the goods that weare taken out of the Morning Star, and put into the prize shipe now goeing downe,

downe, shall stay till such time he hath rumaged and delivered all such goods, wherein A. D. 1655:
 yow are concerned, be deliveried ashore here upon this island; of which I preshume he
 will give yow an accompt att large. I presented to him mr. Nailor, who is the agent for
 the dispossing of them, or capt. Jame Beecke, a very honest man, and a man of a large
 credit and trade, who is coll. Goodson's attorni both for yourselfe and him, in buffines of
 yours before in his custodye, from whom I preshume yow will resceive a perticuler ac-
 compt of him. I also presented the governer for the disposfall of cargoe here, of
 whom I am confident yow will resceve an honest and faithfull accompt of what of
 yours shall come to his hands; but the governer hath not acquainted mee with ani
 resolves, what farther, or how he will doe or dispossse of your buffines; for which I
 shall refferr yow unto his perticuler advise. This onli (brother) serves to accompanie this
 perticuler shipe, by whom I thought meet to write, having not but my former matter;
 but this occation presenting, by which I shall onli ade thus farther, with my affectionate
 respects to your selfe and sifter. I comitte yow to God, and rest,

June 5, 1655.

Your affectionate brother,

THO. NOELL.

Since the writting of this, the governer hath ordered capt. Beecke to resceive all the
 goods not cary'd by the to coll. Goodson, and to resceive them ashore.

I am advised the Spaniards have gotten some of there coullers, which I hope for the
 honnor of our nation thei will not so losse.

The superscription,

For his affectionate brother, Martine Noell, *esq*;
 in the Old Jury, London.

*To his highness the lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, Ireland,
 and the dominions thereto belonging, and his most honourable council.*

MAIE IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

HAVING received an order of reference from your highness, and your most ho-
 nourable council, of the tenor ensuing:

Tuesday, 5th of June, 1655.

At the council at Whitehall.

Whereas the sum of eighty five thousand pounds, which was payable by the Dutch,
 by virtue of an award, made by the commissioners appointed on both parts, in pursuance
 of the 30th article of the treaty betwixt his highness the lord protector and the lords the
 states general of the united provinces of the Netherlands, is (by and with the consent
 of the present governor and many members of the East India company) deposited in the
 hands of sir Thomas Viner, knight, and alderman Riccard. And whereas several differences
 have arisen between the parties interested in the several stocks of the East India company,
 concerning distribution of the said monies.

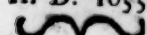
Ordered by his highness the lord protector and the councill, and by and with the like
 consent as afore said, that it be, and hereby stands referred to doctor Walter Walker,
 doctor William Turner, doctor John Exton, William Thompson, aldermen of London,
 and Thomas Kendall, of London, merchant, or any three of them, to receive the several
 claims, shall be to them exhibited, by or on behalf of the persons concerned in any of
 the said stocks, and upon consideration thereof, and of what shall be alledged or offered
 on behalf of them, or any of them, and examination of the grounds of their several and
 respective claims and pretences, to compose and end the said differences, and to make such
 final award and determination, in and touching the premises, and accordingly allot and
 design to them respectively, such several proportions of the said money, as they shall find
 to stand with justice, and to report the same to his highness and the council, that directions
 may be given for payment of the money accordingly.

And whereas some question hath also arisen, to whom the right and title of the island
 of Poleron doth belong, the said referees, or any three of them, are also authorized and
 impowered to consider of all such claims, as shall be exhibited unto them, as well on be-
 half of the commonwealth, as of the persons interested in any of the said stocks, pre-
 tending title thereunto; and upon due examination thereof, to make and set down their
 final award and determination therein, and report the same to his highness and council, as
 afore said.

Signed,

W. JESSOP, clerk of the council.

And having in obedience thereunto met, heard and debated the differences, arisen be-
 tween the parties interested in the several stocks of the East India company, concerning the
 distribution

A. D. 1655.  distribution of the said eighty five thousand pounds; and reported our opinions to your highness, touching the same, and as touching the interest of the island of Poleron, having (for the reasons expressed in our said report) reserved the same to be especially reported by itself, we your highness's commissioners appointed for the hearing and determining the differences between the subjects of your highness and those of the states of the United Netherlands, do hereby most humbly present our report touching the interest of the said island as followeth:

Upon debate before us and the Dutch commissioners of the right and interest of the English East India company, against those of the Dutch East India company, who had *de facto* gotten possession of the island of Poleron, it was evidenced unto us, on the behalf of the English company,

That the Orankeys or princes of the island of Poleron by an instrument, written in the *Malayan* tongues (and translated into English) having made surrender or cession of the said island to the English; covenant to send the king of England a bough of nutmegs yearly, acknowledging King James to be king of Poleron, and promise to sell the fruits of the said island to none but the king of England's subjects. This contract they make with Nathaniel Courthope and other merchants in the service of the English East India company (in whose hands the said island then partly was) who also contract to buy the said fruits of them as by the said translated instrument was manifested unto us.

Cart. Reg.
fol. 16.

And it was further evidenced unto us, by the depositions of several witnesses, taken some in the admiralty and some before us, that the said Nathaniel Courthope, a minister or agent of the English East India company, (to whom the whole trade of the Indies, by patent under the broad seal, was granted by king James, anno 1609) took possession of the said island by virtue of the said surrender, and was chief of the English there, and the first governor thereof, and received fruits of the island of and from the Orankeys, by way of taking possession of the island, and that immediately after the said surrender and taking possession, the English (in service of the said company) built and planted several forts, which commanded the roads and towns, and continued in quiet possession of the said island four years and more, namely from the 23d of December 1616, to the 6th of March 1620.

Treaty of
1619.

That during this time of quiet possession by the English East India company, upon a treaty in 1619, between certain counsellors of state and others appointed by king James, and others appointed by the states of the Netherlands to accommodate some differences betwixt the said two companies, it was agreed, "That the forts, as well on the one part as the other, shall remain in the hands of those, who possess them at present."

That this long and quiet possession, gotten, and mentioned by the ministers of the said English East India company, being violated by the Dutch, anno 1620, it was upon another treaty between several lords of the council appointed by the said king, and others by the said states, anno 1622, thus agreed: viz. touching Poleron, those of the Netherlands do faithfully promise, that if so be they are in the possession of the island Le Forts Poleron, or if they shall have been taken directly or indirectly by them, or by their ministers, or by any other in their name, to abandon, give over, and force them, and to restore them to those of the English company, in the same state and condition they enjoyed them during the time of the treaty.

The English East India company, by their president and committees, in the East Indies, in December 1623, by John Hunter, their agent, in March 1638, protest against the Dutch there, for not delivering up the said island to the rest of the said English East India company, according to the said article.

Upon consideration of which premises, and forasmuch as king James never assumes to himself (for ought appears to us) any other interest, by the said surrender, or upon the the treaty aforesaid, than an acknowledgment only of the sovereignty over the said island, leaving the possession and profits thereof to the said English company, who managed the same at their sole costs and charges, and by their own servants and ministers:

We your highness's said commissioners, with the unanimous concurrence of the Dutch commissioners (induced by the same reason, did, by our award, order and decree the said island of Poleron, to be delivered by the said Dutch East India company to the English company in the same state and condition it was in at the time of the said award, still reserving unto your highness all such dominion and sovereignty over the said island, as was ever invested by the said surrender in king James.

In conformity to which award, the Dutch East India company, in answer to the protest of the English, for non-payment of the eighty five thousand pounds, at the time appointed by the award, say, that they have given order for restitution of the said island to the English East India company accordingly.

All which we humbly submit to your highness and your most honourable council.

WILLIAM THOMPSON. TH. EXTON.
WILLIAM TURNER. THOMAS KENDALL.

This

This being the case stated for advantage of the English East India company, doctor A. D. 1655. Walker, advocate general for his highness the lord protector, conceiving himself obliged in duty to represent (in pursuance of the order of reference) what occurred to him to make a title to his highness to the said island of Poleron, doth humbly on his highness's behalf aver, that upon perusal, as well of the depositions of the witnesses, as of the copy of the surrender produced by the East India company, it appeareth thereby, that the said island was surrendered unto the then king's majesty of England, with all that was thereon; and no word or mention, that any surrender was made to the East India company, or in any other wise (save only to the king of England.) By which surrender, the crown of England being once invested, it could never be divested of it by the East India company, or any subjects of the same crown, but only by grant under it, and that not unless by special words. And not finding any grant produced, that had special words in it to grant it away, his highness's said advocate offers it, that it must necessarily remain still ungranted, and consequently is now invested in his highness. And albeit the East India company do offer many things in respect of their charge, expence and trouble, and perhaps some loss and damage by them sustained, which may perchance in equity move his highness to confer grace upon them, touching the said island; they pretending also, that unless they enjoy it, the trade thereof will be lost to this nation, and the island also; yet his highness's said advocate humbly represents, that all these will not amount to make a punctual right, but rather to be good arguments for his highness's grace and favour in it to the said East India company. And to his highness's grace he humbly submits it.

Mr. G. Dury to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

THE commissary of Sweden, mr. Bonnel, doth most humbly intreat your honour Vol. xxvii. to be pleased to procure him his audience from his highness as soone as conveniently p. 95. it may be. He desires, that the same be without much ceremony, and by way of private audience. I humbly subscribe my self,

Your honour's most humble

June 5, 1655.

and obedient servant.

G. DURY.

Sir B. Wright to secretary Thurloe.

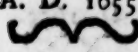
RIGHT HONORABLE,

MY laste unto your honor was of the 5th of June, by the way of Bourdeaux; now Vol. xxvii. I shall lett you know, that the conde de Penaranda, which assisted in Munster for p. 119. plenepotentiario for the kinge of Spaigne, is named for to goe from hence embassadour extraordinary to Rome, as beinge thought the fittest man for the employment, in regard the acquayntance he hath with the pope, who then likewise assisted ther for the laste pope's legate, to treat of the peace 'twixt Spaigne and France, and is to carry with him ample power from the kinge to treat anew of the said peace, the pope haveinge desired it. He may departe from hence in all the month of August. To oblige him to acceptt of this imployment, the kinge hath given him many mercedes; viz. he hath made him a gentilhomme of his bed-chamber, with present exercise; a title of condé for the primogenito of his house, he himselfe being a condé but by his wife, shee coming to inherite by the death of many heyre males, for 10 yeers since he was but Don Gaspar Bracamonto, and Aletrado of the confexo real. And towards the expence of the jorney is given him fiftie thousand crouns in silver, and three thousand crouns per month, for the time that he shal be abroad. They have heere great hopes, that by the meanes of this pope, they shall be able to conclude a peace with France, the which now, more than ever, they desire; feareinge your forces at hoame and abroad. Eight dayes since came hether newes by the way of France, that your fleete under command of general Penn was in the island of St. Christopher's, and from thence is imagined would goe to the Havanah; and they sticke not now to say, that yf it meeteth with the plate-fleete, that you will take it, yf you can. And some dayes since came a correor from the governor of Cadiz, to advize that generall Blake was come thether with his fleete out of the Straights, and demanded leave to enter into the porte to give careen to some of his shipes; but it was refused him, untill orders from hence, which is now given, though this much troubleth them heere; for they say, that it is with

Vol. III.

6 Q

an

A. D. 1655.  an intention to remain on those coastes, to attend their plate-fleete, in case that yours in the Indias misse of it. This, sir, is the common reporte of all men. In my last I advized your honor, that parte of the fleete the French had in Toulon was come with men and provisions to Rosas, and had besieged Cadaques by sea and by land. Now you may please to take notice, that they have taken it, and so the fleete is retourned to Toulon, to joyne, as is thought, with the remayner there, and so to goe to meete with the fleete of shipes and gallies, that the Spaniard expects from Naples to Barcelona, with men, &c. and then be able to hinder their arrivall in Catalonia. The French may doe what they please ther this somemr.

Wee have heere newes, that Cassall de Monferate is delivered up by the duke of Mantue to the French; the which wee much resent. Sir, in my letter of the 11th of May, I advized your honor, that I had given to this kinge a petition, desiringe that his majestie would be pleased to remit to his counsell of state the letter which his highnesse vouchsafed to write in my behalfe, beinge in the junta de Don Luis de Haro, whether it was remitted. No resolution was taken thereon in 4 weekes, the which his majestie did, and after it had bin seene ther, it is retourned to the Junta de Don Luis de Haro agayne, wher it remayneth, and as yett worketh notheinge towards the giveinge me satisfaction for what his majestie hath so contrary to justice taken from me now 7 yeeres since, whereof I thought fitt to give your honor notice, that you may know how his highnesse recomendation is esteemed heere by this kinge and his ministers; that yf you thincke fitt to signifie it unto the Spanish embassadours, you haveinge now ther an extraordinarie and an ordinarie, wherby they may give notice therof to this kinge ther master, it would stir up his majestie to give me the better satisfaction. Could I presume to beg this favour from his highnesse by your honor's intercession, you will further increafe my obligations to your honor, and oblige me to spend my life and estate in his highnesse's service; and although my abilitie is but small, yet my zeale for his good successe is very great. Sir, I am so confident of your noble inclination to assiste the distressed, that I assure my selfe to obteyne this my request; wherby these people may see, that his highnesse was pleased to honor me with his letter upon good considerations, and not upon such groundes, as is heere imagened by some of the cheef ministers, perswaded therunto, as I doe suspect, by an agent don Alonso de Cardenas hath heere, that hath lived with him many yeeres in England. And my suspicion is not without good cause, and so are also my demands for satisfaction from this kinge; for I trusted him not, but upon good securitie, that he gave me in his revenewe; though he hath with his kingly authoritie taken from me my assignationes, and might, with as much justice, have taken away the goodes and mony I had in my house. I have writt to my brother, to petition his highnesse, that a message may be sent to the abovesaid embassadours, that they write hether for satisfaction to be given me, accordinge to justice, and that his letter may be looked upon as a letter from his highnesse, &c. I beseech your honor, as you were pleased to favour me in the procureinge for me his highnesse letter, that you will doe the like in this my abovesaid request, and I shall ever remayne,

Madrid, June 16, 1655. [N. S.]

Your honor's most humble servant,

BENJAMIN WRIGHT.

Mr. H. Dawbne to mr. If. Bowfey.

Cadiz, this 16 of June, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 131.

SINCE I was so happy as to receive that one letter from you, I have written to you divers; but have still found as uncomfortable returnes as to all my former miscarry'd letters; which has been truly one of the greatest afflictions that in my life I have been sensible of (though I have been knowing not to a few,) for to be parted from wife, children, freinds, especially so deer a one as your selfe, nor so much as heare one word from any of them, in so long time, cannot but be esteemed some tryall of patience. And now I finde myself almost impossibilited to keepe a currant correspondence with you, for all my fellow merchants are uppon theyr flight, some by land, others by sea, leaving theyr estates behinde them, to secure theyr persons, for heer is like to be very dangerous dwelling. But poore I am so ty'd by the legg, by your occasions and comands, that I must not flinch for any feare whatsoever. Generall Blake has layn off heer with his fleet about a week, which, with the buzzing between our merchants, has putt no little feares and jealousies into the heads of the people, which are now confirmed by the suddayn departure of one James Wilson, who has long taken upon him heer to be a publick minister, and

and so did negotiat as an agent with the duke of Medina, and governour heer upon all occasions, though I beleeve without commission from, I'me sure without affections to, our present state. With his flight are all the rest of our top merchants terrifyed, and preparing for theyrs. You may easily apprehend the dangerous condition that I am like to be in, for allready none of our nation dare shew theyr heads in the streets, and I in my retyrment am like to be wors putt to it, having so many enemys within my dores, as are fadd wants and distresses, with which attendants it will be very difficult to proceed to any great action, as I have given you notice in all my former letters; as also how that this place cannot afford busyness sufficient for our expectations, being the fagg end of this vast country, and doeing nothing but by orders from above; and to turne the course of a river, wee should regularly beginn at the spring-head; but howsoever I submitt all, as I am in duty bound, to your better disposition, and presume, that you will order all things to your best advantage, nor suffer me to make an unprofitable hazard of my life and fortunes for you. I can add very little news to what I have written in my former, but that heer is a very sad change of faces heere, and I fear harts, since posselt with thees unhappy apprehensions; but the Lord, I doubt not, will turne all for the best. Heer was an aviso from the Indys taken by the Turkes close under this shore. Some of thees people impute the permission of it at least to our fleet, but a Hollander that spoke with him at sea tells us, that the galleons may be expected heer within thees 6 weeks. They are the richest, that have come from thence thees many yeers; but if they should miscarry, as now the Spanyards themselves beginn to feare they may, this country will be utterly ruined, and all trade heer for ever. I have not more than half an houer's time to give you this slight service; but I conceive it matters not much; for what more newes this place will afford, the many merchants that I heare are passengers upon this shipp, will give you a more particular account. Litle I beleeve will be more done heer till the returne of the post from Madrid, who is now sent exprefs thither. So as opportunity shall present, you shall, if I can possibly finde opportunity, heare further from,

Sir, your affectionate and faythfull

factor and servant,

H. DAUBNE.

SIR,

I had not time to write a copy, otherwise should send you a duplicat of this over land.

In my last I gave you notice of my old friend, doctor Bayly, and his companion, mr. Metham's arrivall heer, who after two or three days stay embarkt again for Italy, where I hope before this they are safely arrived, and will doe you some considerable service there. I could wish I were as well impowered to serve you heer, and in time I doubt not but you will thinke fitt to ennoble me. Till then I must have patience.

The superscription,

*For my most honor'd friend, mr. Isaak Bowsey,
merchant in London.*

To Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Paris, June 16, 1655. [N. S.]

THE court is at la Fere, where the king was in great danger of being killed; for as Vol. xxvii. they were marching over the bridge, it broke under the feet of the coach horses, p. 127. whereby one was drowned, and the other with the postilion was saved. The fear was greater than the hurt, as it happened. His eminence hath declared to the marshal of Turenne, that he should have the quality of generalissimo; whereunto the said monsieur de Turenne would not consent, and told him, that he would sooner quit the service. Others were founded upon this subject, and all made some objection against it, that it causeth the most trouble at court. The brief, which the pope hath sent for a jubilee, directed to the great vicars, named the cardinal de Retz, archbishop of Paris. This is found to be directly contrary to the will of the king, who hath put out all those great vicars, and caused others to be named by the chapters. Monsieur le Tellier is here for this business, and hath had several conferences with the pope's nuncio. This business will likely cause some new trouble. There is yet nothing determined in it, and some further orders from the court are expected about it.

A letter

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, June 16, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvii.
p. 135.

YOURS of the 11th instant I received by this post, with your few occurrents ; for which I have returned you some of my letter of occurrents. As for other news but what you have in them, here are few. At court and in this city they do much admire at the protector's letter to the king of France ; and that his highness should retard the peace (or rather frustrate it, as it is feared) for the massacres committed in Savoy, with which the king had nothing to do. And truly I do believe the king is innocent of that, as of many other foul actings executed by the commands of cardinal Mazarin, who, to ingratiate himself to the new pope, and shew a great zeal, is likely to have given orders to the French regiments, that were in Savoy, to do as they have done.

The king's answer to the protector's letter will tell more of the business than now I can ; but it is certain in court, they conclude, that if the protector had not this for excuse, he had found some other to put off the signing of the treaty. And thus they talk with very opprobrious language to his highness. Yet there are not wanting in court and city catholicks in great number, that cry up his highness for his great zeal to all those of his religion ; and our princes are ashamed at it, as they discourse frequently.

The last letters from Spain hither bring, that queen to be quick with child, for which they seem to make great joy in this court.

Of the general peace nothing but the pope will do it, &c. Some talk again of a cessation with Spain, at least with Flanders ; but I have no ground for it, nor any other news ; always concluding,

Sir, yours.

Col. Barkstead, lieutenant of the Tower, to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 97.

IN obedience to your commands, I have apprehended Thomas Vyner, one of the master coopers of your highness's Tower ; and have in safe custody sent him to your highness by the bearer Robert Browne. I am

Tower of London, June 6,
1655.

Your highness's

most obedient faithful servant,

JOHN BARKSTEAD.

*Instructions for colonel William Brayne, governor of the garrison of Inverloughhee.*Vol. xxvii.
p. 481.

YOU are on sight hereof to make your present repair (with the several companies under your command) to the garrison of Inverloughhee, and the same instructions, which you had from his highness the lord protector for the commanding of those forces, which you conducted out of Ireland into Scotland, you are also to observe for the party sent hence for Inverloughhee, and they are also hereby required to obey you accordingly. And in regard those parts of the highlands adjacent to the garrison of Inverloughhee are far remote from any court of judicature, either civil or criminal, and the inhabitants so barbarous, that publick justice cannot be executed there, which hath been the cause, that the people thereof have infested a great part of this nation with their frequent murders and robberies, which they commit openly by force of arms, justifying the same as lawful, they never having as yet been subject to the laws of Scotland, otherwise than as they were compelled by arms. For the remedying of which disorders, and civilizing of the said people, I do therefore (with the approbation and advice of the right honourable the commissioners for administration of justice in Scotland) authorize you to apprehend, or cause to be apprehended, the person or persons of any, who are inhabitants, or have relation to, or shall be found in the several bounds of Loughaber, the breas thereof, Appine, Glenna, Rannach, Glengairy, Knodiart, Ardmuchy, and Ardgowre ; and that are or shall be suspected or accused to have committed any murder, robbery, or felonies, or who have abetted, refetted, or favoured any, who have committed the said offences ; and to try the person or persons so apprehended by a court martial, which said court is to take the examination of the party or parties so accused or suspected, or the testimony of the witnesses ; and if they shall find them or any of them

guilty of any of the said crimes, then to adjudge them punishment either by death or otherwise, according as the nature and quality of the offence shall deserve; and give order, that the punishment so given be put in execution, according to the sentence. You are also to use your utmost endeavours for keeping the publick peace within the said bounds, and to punish the breakers thereof either by corporal or pecuniary punishment, according as the nature of the offence shall deserve; as also to punish all such, who being able of body, do refuse to work, or cannot give a good account by what calling or means they do subsist. And you are to use all other good and convenient ways and means to bring the inhabitants of the said bounds to a more civil life and conversation. Given under my hand and seal at Dalkeith the 6th day of June 1655. A. D. 1655.

GEORGE MONCK.

Capt. Unton Croke and H. Smith to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

IN pursuance of your instructions, wee have seized the persons of the lord Lovelace, Vol. xxvii. P. 101. sir John Burlacie, sir Thomas Pope, John Osbaldiston, esq; who were included in the list sent us from your highnesse. Sir William Walter and col. Sands are, as wee heare, at London, and soe out of our reache. Wee have alsoe secured the lord of Falkland, George Nappier, Thomas Whorwood, Esq; who are dangerous and disaffected persons. Wee intend to morrow morning to send them to Worcester, that being the neereest place where there is conveniencie for confinement. Wee alsoe sent for my lord of Lindsey, whose residence is in this countie, a person sufficiently knowne to your highnesse, as wee suppose; but at his owne importunity, and coll. Coke's, wee have adventured to leave him at his house, untill your highnesse shall signifie the contrary; but wee thought it a duty to act what wee did incumbent on,

May it please your highnesse,

Oxon, June 6, 1655.

your most faithfull humble servants,

HEN. SMITH.
UNTON CROKE.

Here was in this towne one coll. Colt, who formerly served the king, and esteemed a very dangerous person. Wee made attempts to seize him, but he having notice, fledd from us, as wee heare, to London.

A letter of intelligence from Cologne.

SIR,

IN my last I had somewhat concerning fate and the symtomes, upon which rationall and sober men might relinquish endeavours for the preservation of ther country. When I hinted this in my last, itt was but in notion; since itt hath enlarged itself to consideration; and I must scann that story of Solon I then gave you, who, when Pisistratus had taken Athens, and hee, in his judgment, saw all endeavours for libertie lost, layes downe his armes, and departs to sitt still att home for the future. 'Tis possible hee may be applauded, but assuredly his deserting the publick in itt necessity was unworthy a wise man; his laying downe his armes, an act of much arrogancye, timorous and base; his resolution to sitt still for the future, self interest; and his conclusions, that all endeavours would be vaine, prophane, an injustice to those gods he adored, and a lessening and determining of the divine powers. I wish to many have not made such conclusions upon mistaken grounds; though I must confesse the symtomes of the last fate of our country have been very vehement; and if we shall reflect upon what past at present (I am confident) if the love of your countrey bee deere unto you, I know you'l profess (though by the way I must tell you, many of those generall laws terminate in our particulars, most men respecting the publick but in order to ther private good, and wee have a custome of bemoaning the generall calamities, not because wee are really sensible of them, but because itt gaines unto us, in some or all we converse with, an opinion of being truly zealous, charitable, and well minded towards the country) you must tremble at the considerations of those many prodigies in the aire, in the sea, in the land; besides those many earnestes of God's wrath in the frequent fires lately happened, the present mortallity your pamphletts lament, and your present plenty (I am informed) is not accounted by many the lightest curse; all the prodromies, I feare, of an utter desolation. But this is beyond

VOL. III.

6 R

A. D. 1655. beyond your feares. Your armies are great, your navies victorious, your counsellors intire; and unless I can chalk out the way, all I have said concerning destruction is ridiculous. Truly I must conceede unto you, that the wayes of God are unssearchable; and what wee least now imagine, may interveene to the effecting all those miseries wee deserve and may expect. For if itt be lawfull to guess att what God will doe, by what God hath done, wee may feare the dreggs reserved for us, wee having little reason as I know to conclude ourselves the righteous ones. Ireland hath, Scotland hath, men and nations have suffered, and from thence wee may inferre England shall; and I pray to God these unhappy divisions may not terminate in the very subversion of the nation; for animosities are not suffocated with blood; and opportunity will att one time or other enliven them to rage and madness; and hee'l bee happiest can first bring a stranger to destroy his neighbour. You may remember, sir, wee have sometime in our melancholy discours't, that drowning men catch hold on any twigg to save themselves. After all this I know you may in defence urge scripture for government and power, and consequently obedience; 'tis true, but you cannot be ignorant, how itt hath been acquired, which may absolve every pious man; and really I wish the sinns in the acquisition may not prove nationall. I shall forbear to renumerate them; this hint will bring in the chaine of thoughts.

There is a portion of scripture your selfe and I have sometime bandied, I being ever an ill glosser, you would not reach mee yours to understand, but wished mee to follow the expressions. 'Tis in the xxviith of Jeremiah, the first part of which hath respect to all the neighbouring princes, but in the 12th verse his commands . . . Zedekiah the king, and the peculiar tribe, and that they also must bring ther necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon, to serve him, and his people. And in the 13 he falls into a pathetick expostulation with them; *why will yee die, thou and thy people by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence, as the Lord hath spoken against the nations that will not serve the king of Babylon?* where you beleive mee securer; but this case is farr different from ours; for heere is the positive command of God by the prophet for ther obedience, and conditions, also proposed, as in the 11th, that those nations that doe serve him, shall by his protection remaine in ther owne land; they shall till itt, and dwell therein; which when you shall make evident to bee in our case, I shall acquiesce and forbear (indeed) to fight against God.

I having received somewhat from Collen, doe here give itt you; and it is an accompt of the late undertaking of the Scotts king, which hee was precipitated upon by the passions of some amongst you in England. Ormond and O Neale having received in Flanders the state of the whole thing from some deputed for that purpose, found the basis soe unsteddy, that O Neale beseecht his majestie on his knees not to ingage himself upon itt. Ormond did the same; the chancellor, like a wise man, suspended; secretary Nicholas, full of hopes, was point blank for his ingageing. The king himself gave the business for lost; yett since his motion was urged, and he had promised hee would goe, that they and the whole world might finde him ready and forward imbracing ought in order to his business, that those many imputations of remissness in him have beene the suggestions and calumniationes of malice; the journey was undertaken with expence of 20000 dollars, a sum not readily repaired by that prince, whom the whole world hath almost relinquisht. Middleton was expected at Collen ten days since, having past Munster, which is but 2 small dayes journeys from that place. Since hee hath not been heard of, in soe much that hee is given for lost, itt being conceived he may be fallen into the hands of the souldiers (of which the country is full) for 'tis not imaginable, but hee must be heard off, if alive. Gerard went mooneday last to prince Rupert to Heidelbergh. 'Tis conceived hee will take command under that prince, who is busy in leavies for the duke of Modena, the French having advanced the monies.

The Sweeds are not as yett advanced. Were his designes publick, happily many a small Germaine prince would rest quietly; for 'tis not imaginable that great eagle will catch att flies: however they are all in armes.

I cannot gett a perfect knowledge of the violence offered to the protestants by the duke of Savoy, nor doe wee meet with itt but in your newes books; wherefore I suspect 'tis some state foist. I have nothing more at present, this being indeed more than enough. That I will wright unto you, cannot bee imputed to you as a fault, in case my extravagancies fall into other hands. The posts are free, and receive all. I am, sir,

June 27, [1655.]

Your most faithfull servant.

The superscription,

For mr. William Guordon, att mr. Josiah Drainer's,
apothecary, att the three half moones, nere York-
house in the Strand, London.

J A M A I C A.

At a councill of war held at St. Jago de la Vega, June 7, 1655.

Present,

Major general Fortescue,

Colonel Buller,
Colonel Doyle,Colonel Carter,
Colonel Holdipp,Quarter master general Rudyerd,
Lieutenant colonel Barry,Adjutant general Birkenhead,
Major Smith.

Resolved, that whosoever goes for England to represent the condition of the army, A. D. 1655. and shall not return again within a twelve-month after his departure, shall be incapable of receiving benefit by any plantation, being his proportion as a member of the army. Vol. xxvii. p. 143.

Resolved, that we are willing, if the general please to take the trouble upon him of going into England, to represent the condition of the army and this island, and to procure such reliefs and supplies, as shall be needfull for the carrying on of this design, that he dispose himself for the voyage, as soon as he shall think convenient.

Resolved, that some one officer of the army be desired to go to attend the general into England; and that the officer agreed upon be col. Buller.

Rich. Fortescue, Isaac Birkenhead,
Ric. Holdipp, Jo. Rudyerd.
Samuel Barry,

We whose names are under written, being field officers of the army (though not present at the council of war within mentioned) do freely consent to, and approve of the votes and resolutions of the said council, as they are within expressed.

Phil. Ward,
Hen. Bartlett,
William Smith,
Michael Bland,
William Jordan.

An intercepted letter of Cha. Walley to Peter Venables, baron of Kinderton.

HONORABLE SIR,

I Received yours of the 2d instant, whereby I see my man John presumed to bringe a A. D. 1655. yonge well-breed pacinge mare to have a dribb of an ould lame hackney stallion; yet, I hope, foe stoute with his teeth and heeles as not to suffer that promoted palfrey Vol. xxvii. p. 151. dulopp to come within the verge of the stood; else at my mare's cominge home, I should have turned over Marsham, to have given her an evaquation. If the mare hould with what the ould horse does, I'll saie, she is bread in a good soyle, nere Cotton Edmunds, a fruitefull place in former tymes.

Your great shanct neighbore is come home ere this; and for ought I heare, onley advanced to be captain of the county-troope, and governor of Chester. Justice Manley his lieutenant, if he will accept it, and capt. Griffith, cornett, officers all made, and he took downe all the commissions with him. He was foe civill and curtious, as came to me to my lodging, and wee dyned together. But for all his favour and interest did not move a word for there arrears at Woster. I perceave he's trobled, that coll. Garratt did dodge, and foe misst the excyse of salt. Here hath bine great expectation of some new declaration or denomination this fortnight; but yet nothing appeares. A great press of seamen. Now this done, another great fleet to goe presently after coll. Venables to *terra ignota*; for noe newes from him yet since he left the Barbados. Wil be great alteration, it's said, of great officers in England and Ireland. Some 10 daies hence or a fortnight the lord H. C. goes for Ireland. I was with him this morninge, and he said, 2 or 3 daies hence he would tell me the tyme; if I could gett speciall auditors for my account, I should make an end shortly. I have allmost spent my spiritts with the bussines of it; and never man more desired to be at home. I begg your pardon for my bouldnes, presuming on your wounted goodnes and freedome to your most bounden servant at command,

June 7, 1655.

CHA. WALLEY.
My

A. D. 1655. My most humble service to your good lady and daughter. Mr. H. Wilbram and I once a week remember you.

You might rayse friends in England and Ireland by presenting a yonge horse at Chester, as the great man passes by. You'le aske, whether I am in jest or earnest. He will have both the horse and mare that were fir R. M.

The superscription,

For the honourable Peter Venables, barron of Kinderton, at his house at Kinderton, nere Middlewich in Cheshire, present these.

A Letter of intelligence from the Hague.

June 12, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 51.

THE lords of Holland have this morning disbanded the earl of Stierum, captain of horse, for having taken service under the Swede, notwithstanding that he married the niece of the princeps of Orange; and in the mean time there are several, who have taken service under the elector of Brandenburg, and notwithstanding do hold their charges here.

From Flanders (it is said from Malines, but I believe from Brussels, from him, who doth usually write to prince Maurice) therein being come advice, that the design of the Swedes is upon the province of Overysfel, they have admonished and desired the commissioners of state to draw up an advice, in what manner they should provide against it, if it be; whereupon the council have appeared in the assembly of the states general, and did advise, that they ought to draw from such and such places about 70 or 80 companies, and put them in garrison, or a flying body, in two places upon the Rhine and the Issel, to be commanded by two heads, who are not yet named. But there is yet nothing concluded. Likewise I believe, that those of Brandenburg, who thought to draw some advantage from this sudden advice, have met with the contrary. They did believe, that by this report, they should oblige Holland so much the more to conclude the alliance with Brandenburg; but on the contrary those of Overysfel and Gelderland are afraid to offend Sweden by such an alliance; infomuch this day neither Holland, nor the president, nor any other province made any mention of the alliance with Brandenburg; so that one can conjecture nothing else, but that the treaty will not take effect; for the assembly of Holland is parting, and they must either conclude the treaty at present, or do nothing; and we shall see, whether any thing will be moved about it. Now it is clearly seen, that *specie recusantis*, the elector hath desired the treaty most flagrantly.

June 14.

Yesterday after the sermon in the forenoon, and after the evening sermon, there was a meeting with the commissioners of state, concerning the defence of the frontiers; and that upon the report or advice, which was said to be come from Brabant, that the Swedes had a design upon this state; and that therefore there ought an oath to be taken (see the *Restored Lyon*, fol. 390, 391.) upon this business; and that the lord Ripperda and the lord Knyf, two that are newly come, did refuse this oath, pretending likewise, that it could not be kept (a fair commendation.) However, after a long debate, they would have them either to take that oath, or to go out of the assembly, so that the lord Knyf took it. Ripperda absented himself. All the business was only to frame a register of the companies of foot and horse, to the number of about eighty companies, to put into bodies of flying armies upon the Rhine and Issel, under the marshal de camp and prince William; and by this means endeavour to remove their friends out of such garrisons, as are bad or inconvenient ones; which contrary to the oath at the assembly in Zealand, those of Zieirixee would not appear, saying, that they must first redress the business of Tolen in *pristinum statum*.

The embassador of France hath been to see the president for this week, only recommending to him the business of a priest of Maestricht.

This morning they at last agreed upon the manner and number of companies, who shall have patents. They are to march towards Groningen and Friesland; and if need be, they are to make two bodies, whereof one shall be commanded by the marshal de camp, and the other by prince William. Those of Friesland have very much opposed the choice of those two heads, and the making up of the body, to signify, that they will not have, that the marshal de camp should come and command in the said provinces; whereof

whereof care is likewise had; so that the contradiction of Friesland is no ways well grounded. The proposition of baron Sparr was read this morning; and it is already resolved, that an answer shall be returned in very civil terms. And to the end to oblige and honour him the more, they have appointed the lord Ripperda of Guelderland, the lord Waveren, and the president for the week, to treat him at a solemn feast on wednesday next.

June 15.

This morning was read the projected treaty with the elector of Brandenburg; but they advanced no further than to the 14th article; upon the occasion whereof the question was very much debated, how far this state hath right and is obliged to free and secure the privileges and liberties of the states of the country of Cleve, and by this means that treaty maketh but a slow progress.

The lord Huygens was to confer this day with the ambassador of Spain, upon his memorandum more particularly.

June 16.

This day there passed nothing considerable. There hath not been any thing said of the treaty with Brandenburg. They have dispatcht the patents. The reason why those of Friesland did not desire to have any nomination of heads, is, because, that if there had been none named, tacitly it would have been prince William, that would have commanded, by reason that all those troops will be in the province of his government.

June 17.

The commissioners of the states general at Groningen have writ, that they have made an end of examining; and that in pursuance thereof those, that have been admitted, have made the distribution of offices and charges according as they could agree by plurality of voices; and thereupon the government of the province is re-established to a being, which formerly was divided. On the 14th of this month the same commissioners were to make a provision for a rule, according to which for the time to come the states of the Ommelands were to govern and establish their government. We shall see whether they will embrace it.

Yesterday they feasted the baron Sparr. This day the prince of Tarante feasts him. He complains, that the ambassador of France did not give him so good a reception as him of Spain. The states general have already agreed upon an answer in Latin, which is to be given him upon his proposition. And if he hath nothing else to propose, he wants only a recredential in the ordinary form to return.

This day again was read the projected treaty with the elector of Brandenburg; and the plurality of voices hath declared upon the 13th or 14th article, that this state doth pretend the observation of the treaty of Xanten, and the effect of securing, which are to be seen in the book, called a *Relation of the Netherland Treaties of Peace*, fol. 235, and 242. And in regard, that the lord plenipotentiary of his highness the elector of Brandenburg both declare, that he cannot admit of it, the treaty I believe will sleep.

June 18.

Concerning the treaty with Brandenburg, another conference is to be held with the plenipotentiary of his highness the elector of Brandenburg, upon the above mentioned clause; but it is presumed already, that he will not hearken to it. I am

June 18, 1655. [N. S.]

Your most humble servant.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

SIR,

I Understand, that the states general of Holland will endeavour to put themselves in alliance with 104 or 105 protector Denmark 155 Vol. xxvii. p. 139. with 130 and 142 to maintain Poland. I do admire, that likewise they do not Brandenburg alliance speak of 170, with whom hitherto they do likewise endeavour for 155; which I do wonder at, for that is a trick put upon 105, in regard that 155 is more 145 and royalists states of Holland making profession to esteem the amity protector 146 than any one in the world. And 105 making profession to esteem the amity of 130, ought not to make 153 with men that are so violently 146. Vol. III. 6 S And

A. D. 1655.

Denmark Orefundt
 And besides, it is very observable, that 142 being master of 165, can do a great deal
 protector States of Holland Amsterdam
 of harm to 130, as he hath had the trial. 105 and 112 do only endeavour
 commerce states of Holland Dantzick
 to get all the 174 to themselves. Why do 105 trouble themselves? for as for 166,
 Sweden Sweden Prussia Regalis Prussia Ducalis
 they stand well with 141; and although 141 were masters of 176 and 177
 Sweden Poland
 what harm? 141 would not devour all the fruits of 175. They must settle them;
 they must live and let others live. I give you many thanks for the bill of exchange; but
 there being, according to my calculation, two quarters more in arrear, I leave that to your
 discretion and ancient good affection.

states of Holland ambassadors states general
 As to this resolution of 105, the 124 of 104 will not have for
 resident Poland
 this time yet any charge. I would be glad to know what doth the 125 of 175;
 states of Holland

105 are angry, that he doth absent himself from hence at present, *si obtinendi*
 Cromwell
aliquid apud 130 spem non habeat.

The creditors of the Queen of Bohemia are going again for England, with recom-
 mendations to the lord protector and the lord Nieuport.

June 18, 1655. [N. S.]

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol xxvii.
 P 199.

I NOW hav advys from my frend at Naples, that his hyhnes comission for the two
 horses and fowre mares is completed, I hope to his hyhnes full content; my next may
 bring you an invois or factory of their cost and charges; as also a description of each;
 their race, or pedigree, collour, age, heitht, quallity, and condition. Althouh my said
 frend be a marchant, yet he professes som skil in horfmanship; besyds which, he has had
 the best advys in Naples. I hope they wil prov every way answerable to his hyhnes ex-
 pectation. I gav order to the man I sent over for Tripoly to rediem the Inglish captives,
 to bring a mare thence, which he did; but 'twas so small a thing, gentile and thin, the
 legs litle bigger than a hynd's, that I thouht not worth your acceptance; for a good
 mare to breed should be as wel tal and large, as clean limb'd and handsom. I know
 not yet, whether I shal speed in the comission I gav to Aleppo for a horse; but if I do,
 I am confident the world has not better horses than that place affourds.

Som shippes arryv'd here this week saw gen. Blake's fleet off Cape de Gat, going west-
 ward towards the Streits mouth, as is supposed, to meet his vittellers, wherof his must be in
 som want, althouh he has had good supply at Argier; but that is not meat to keep.
 Here has not arryv'd a vessell from Provence this 40 days, becaus of the imbargue, til
 theyr fleet be maned. I was in som hopes, that the 6 ships and gallyes, that departed a
 month since with men for Cattalonia, might hav faln into gen. Blake's hands, but they
 hav landed theyr men, and are retorned from Tollon, with an Inglish merchant's ship,
 which they met with coming from Barfalona. This last week the great duk called
 som Inglish to him, who wer at Florence, and demanded in what manner the late kings
 of England did giv audience, and receiv ambassadors extraordinary from other kings, for
 (said the duk) the most seren protector did scarce mov his hat at receipt of the marques
 de Leida. Hearing of this passage, I thoht it my duty to advys you of it, that his
 hyhnes may know what precys observers ar about his court. 'Tis reported and believ'd
 at the great duk's court, that prince Rubert coms to serv the duk of Modena with
 2500 men, at which I wonder, seing his brother is as it wer a creature to the emperor.
 How he can dispence to serv against the house of Austria, I know not.

It siems som few protestants in Savoy, who escapt the late massacre, having received
 som countenance and succour from the Cantons, Geneva, and the French, ar now in arms
 upon thos mountains som 2000, and as they fynd opportunity, revenge the death of
 theyr frends. A protestant war in Italy has not hitherto bin known. What fyre this
 spark may kindle, I know not.

'Tis som tyme since I was bould to prefer an humble petition to his hyhnes the pro-
 tector by your worthy hands, for repayment of my losses by the French in thes seas;
 which amounts to 2093 l. ster. If by your meanes his hyhnes letter myht be procured

to general Blake to satisfy my sayd losses out of the French pryzes he taks in the seas, it A. D. 1655.
would oblige perpetually,

Right honourable,

Leghorn, June 18, 1655. [N. S.]

Your most humble and faithfull servant,

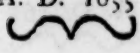
CHARLES LONGLAND.

General Blak has ratified the articles of peace at Argier, and included therein Scotch, Irish, Jarnsey and Garnsey-men, and all others the protector's subjects. He has lykewys redeemed from thence al such as wer captives ther. Several Duch captives swam aboard the fleet, and so escape theyr captivity.

Nieuport, *the Dutch ambassador in England, to N. Ruysch.*

MY LORD,

THEIR high mightinesses's letter and resolutions concerning the 17 or 18 Netherland Vol. xxviii: ships, seized by the English fleet under the generals Pen and Venables, near Bar- P. 175. bados, as also in relation to the massacre committed lately upon those of the true reformed religion, till then living in Vallies of the Piedmont, both dated on the 7th instant, came to hands last night. On the first subject I discoursed some days ago with mr. Thurloe, who told me, that I had best to draw it up in writing, and that he most willingly would deliver the same to his highness the lord protector. And some sailors coming over here with an English ship from Barbados, having given me some account of the ship called the Currycomb of Rotterdam, I caused them to be examined on oath upon some interrogatories, and desired the restitution thereof by a written memorial, since the said ship, coming from Carcao, a Netherland plantation, with 4 horses and about 60 goats, was taken at sea beyond the English islands. Yesterday I delivered likewise a memorial in writing concerning the Sea-horse and Parrot, two ships of Flushing, being informed, that one of the ships was taken at sea, full two miles from the shore, which the evening before came to an anchor, and was seized the next day following, without any one of both ships having been on shore. And whereas in a few days some ships are going to Barbados and the said fleet, I think that their high mightinesses will not take it ill, if I demand forthwith a general restitution and discharge of all the ships and goods, or at least, that orders may be given, that the ships and goods, as far as possible, may be preserved, or otherwise, that the produce thereof may not be alienated or perplexed, and this in two separate written memorials, the first dated on the 25th of May, and the other on the 15th of June. I have also demanded relaxation of the ship called, the Hare in the Field of Middelburgh, and of the cargo thereof, being taken at sea, sailing from Havre de Grace to Cadiz in Spain, laden with rich goods; and the council has found good thereupon, that the said memorial, together with some instructions which were annexed thereunto, should be delivered to the commissioners of sea affairs and the fleet, with order that they should make an exact report thereof on yesterday. This morning I understood, that the said gentlemen had been ready, but that the council, treating upon publick affairs, the time was spent therein. I am told under hand, that proof can be made, that part of the cargo belongs to French merchants. I will further do my utmost endeavours, that a speedy and favourable resolution may be given upon my said memorials. As to the contents of their high mightinesses's letter and resolution, relating the aforementioned massacre committed in the Vallies of Piedmont, I informed mr. Thurloe likewise of their high mightinesses's Christian zeal and cordial inclination for the re-establishment of the said poor people; and told him, that I was charged to talk further about it with the lord protector; whereupon he related to me, that he had just before received letters from mr. Moreland, envoy to the duke of Savoy, mentioning that he had delivered his highness's letters to the king of France, and to my lord cardinal at la Fere, and that the count de Brienne had sent him the answer of the said lord the king, with a very civil letter, but that as yet there had been no time to open the said letter. And further he told me, that he would procure me an opportunity to discourse further upon it with his highness himself: accordingly he sent me word this morning, that his highness would expect me this afternoon at three o'clock, and at that time waiting on my lord protector, I acquainted him with their high mightinesses's said resolution, and all that their high mightinesses, since my last audience, had already resolved concerning the persecution and massacre aforementioned, and what order their high mightinesses's had sent to the ambassador Boreel, and in what terms they had written to the king of France, to the protestant Cantons of Switzerland, and to the regency of Geneva; and that further their high mightinesses were not unwilling to send a special deputation to the duke of Savoy, to intercede with his highness in behalf of the said persecuted brethren, his subjects. Whereupon I desired to know, whether his highness would not like-
wise

A. D. 1655.  wife think it fit and serviceable, to give the like orders for him, to the end that thus the said endeavours of intercession might be of the greater efficacy, and be brought the sooner to bear. The lord protector answered me, that it was exceeding pleasing and acceptable to him, to observe, that their high mightinesses, with such a great and Christian zeal, took this affair to heart; and that he still assured me, that he was ready to hazard his life and all that was dear and valuable to him in this world, in such a cause, and for the defence and free exercise of the protestant religion, and for the disappointment of all whatever the papists might devise against the same, or for the oppression thereof; not (as he told me) out of any worldly considerations, but because he was of opinion, that he and all other good Christians were obliged, before God and in their consciences, to oppose all the like persecutions. Further he told me, that he thought it serviceable, that their high mightinesses would likewise send one thither, since he had dispatch'd already a gentleman to the duke of Savoy for that purpose, and would willingly send orders after him to concert matters, and correspond with him, whom their high mightinesses shall think fit to send thither, to promote the said affair and interest, and to bring the same to a happy conclusion. Lastly, he desired me to assure your high mightinesses, in his name, that he was ready to contribute every thing to what their high mightinesses should think proper and of service. He told me further, that he had received an answer to his letter from France; but that he was assured from several parts, that without the concurrence of some ministers, and the troops of that crown under the count de Quincy, it never would have been committed. I replied thereupon, that the faults of ministers and officers ought to be enquired into, and that their high mightinesses had demanded the same; and that I hoped, that the treaty, which was agreed upon with France, for that reason would not be delayed any longer; and that I was obliged further to represent to him the intolerable injuries, that were done to the inhabitants of the United Provinces, as appeared by daily complaints made by private persons, under the pretence of reprisals against the French; that he had given repeated orders, and promised generally to make such regulations, that all complaints should cease; but that experience shewed, as long as those disorders lasted, that it never would be remedied; and that nevertheless private hardships continued in such a state as that of the United Provinces, did upon all occurrences inflame the minds of the people anew. The lord protector answered, that he had not been in the fault, but all the circumstances in the said affair of Piedmont, in relation to the intention of France, gave him great suspicion: however, as to the complaints of their high mightinesses subjects, that he would give his orders to remedy the same, and that I had no occasion to make any scruple, from time to time, in case any thing happened, to speak to him about it. I told him hereupon, that I had received some further informations touching the Netherland ships, which were seized near the Caribbee islands, and that I thought them sufficient to prove the illegality of those proceedings, desiring, that commissaries might be appointed, to lay open before them what has happened in that respect, to the end that forthwith the necessary orders might be issued for the restitution and reparation of damages and losses they have suffered. He promised that he would nominate commissaries for that purpose, and desired mr. Thurloe, who alone was present, to remember him of it. I assure your lordship, that I will do my utmost endeavours for the good of the interested. After having written thus far, the lord ambassador of France came to me, and communicated with many civil expressions the answer of his majesty to the known letter of the lord protector, wherein he is assured, that his majesty had written already about it, and had given further orders, not only to dispose the duke of Savoy to restore the said inhabitants of the Vallies of Piedmont, but also to confirm them in the free exercise of their religion, even with this ampliation, that they should have the liberty to possess free lands and estates beyond their ancient limits, in other parts of the dominions of the said duke of Savoy, not questioning, but the same would be regulated according thereunto. The said gentleman acquainted me likewise, that he had desired, that a time might be appointed for the signing of the adjusted treaty; and that he was answered, that it was impossible to have any consultations on that head, before next monday: messieurs Fiennes and Strickland have been the commissioners in the said negotiation, they are, some days ago, gone into the country, the wife of the first named being brought to bed, and the latter has accompanied his lady into Wales in England to the house of their only daughter; however both the said gentlemen are daily expected home again; when I hope, that the said treaty will be concluded and signed.

Westminster, June 18,
1655. [N. S.]

Wherewith, &c.

My lord, &c.

(Sign'd)

W. NIEUPORT.

A letter

A letter of intelligence to Secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONNOURABELL,

THIS inclosed mr. Palmer had from Cullen; and because they in polleſe alker thare A. D. 1655. names, I humbly conſaved it is my duetie to make it oute as well as I could; but Vol. xxvii. P. 159. conſidering the badneſſ of ſcribe and pen, I hope your honor will accept of my poor endeavours. Mr. Palmer knows one mr. Awdwin, a little man, and brown hair; another called Bab May, much like the firſt; the third called Charles May, a middle ſized man, ſlender, lean, and brown hair; the fourth a tall black man, formerly related to the duke of Buckingham. This laſt he conſaves the moſt conſiderable for buſineſſ, but at preſent knows none of their lodgings, but will endeavour it, if by your honor commanded. If you pleaſe to have him to ſpeak with you, or ſend me any aurdor or directions to him, you may, I humbly conſave, with much ſafety do it, by mr. Reves his hyhnes ſhew maker, who lives next door to the Three Pidgeons in the Coveen Garden, near Longaker. Allſoe mr. Gallmer is much troubled at the pupliſhing thoſe horrid plotts, for he ſath by that means they are now ſoe frightid, that five is alriddy gone. Agane he verrelly thinks others is ſoe exſeding ſly and cunning, that it's hard to gane there lodgings. He furder ſath, if you would pleaſe to aliter but that cummiſſion he hath, and let him be nomynatid collonall, inſteade of leſetennant collonall, he ſhould by that meanes be inabled to culler the biſneſſ; and he is conſydent all the hole gang would flock to him, and communycate any thing to him, by which means he ſhould, as he is conſydent, doe much more ſervis. But praying the God, who is perfectly wiſe, to give you all that you neede, and make you ſtrong for himſelfe, as in dutie bound, take leave, and in all ſathfullneſſ, as in duetie bound, remane your verre humbell ſervant,

June this 8th, 1655.

HUMPHROY HOLDEN.

Secretary Caillet to Barriere, the prince of Condé's agent.

From the camp at Givry, June 18, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

THE two armies of Turenne and de la Ferte are joined. They have not yet under- Vol. xxvii. taken any thing, and their troops are round about Guiſe, where they make great P. 191. preparations. Some ſay they have a deſign upon Landrecy, others Rocroy. But to tell you the truth, we cannot yet certainly tell their deſign, till we ſee them upon their march. The two forementioned are very well provided both with men and ammunition. We do perſuade ourſelves, that they are very much troubled to reſolve what place they had beſt ſet upon, elſe they would not have delayed thus long before ſomething had been done by them. And we are not like to do any thing but defend ourſelves this campagne, to which end we have ſtrongly manned and fortified all our gariſons.

The prince of Condé to Rookeby.

From the camp at Givry, June 18, 1655. N. S.]

SIR,

I HAVE ſeen by your letter of the 25th of May the continuation of your good will Vol. xxvii. and affection, whereof I deſire you to believe that I do make a very good eſteem, as P. 183. I ought; and that I am very much obliged to you for it. I have not at preſent wherewithall to give you for the levy of a regiment. When I have any means to do it, I will do it with all my heart; and I do promiſe you to keep all the priſoners, that ſhall fall into my hands, for your exchange. In the mean time aſſure yourſelf, there is not any body that doth reſpect or love you more than I do.

A letter of intelligence from Holland.

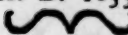
SIR,

SINCE my laſt of the 11th I have not any from you. The laſt money I charged on V. xxvii. mr. Upton is come to my handes, for which I humbly thanke you. Theſe are now P. 165. preparinge both by land and water to oppoſe the Sweads, in caſe they come uppon their frontiers. They have iſſued out orders for 100 foote companys, and 30 troopes of

Vol. III.

6 T

horſe,

A. D. 1655.  horfe, to reinforce their garrifons in Groenningen-land, in Overiffel, and the land of Cleave. There are alfo 16 fhipps makinge ready, which fhall goe under the commaund of Tromp for the Sound, and 20 preparinge for de Ruyter to commaund, which they give out fhall goe into the Streights; but I am informed they are all defigned for the Sound, to keep that paffage cleare, in cafe the Sweed makes any attempt on Dantzick; whereupon they wayte, and fhall receive their commiffions accordingly. There is a great feare in thefe parts, leaft the Sweed fhould march this waye; and the more becaufe the provinces are at great differences one with the other, and the townes difagree; neither doe they knowe whoe to cheufe to commaund their forces, for Breedroode is very ill of the dropfie, yet will not fubceed to any other. Count Maurice of Naffawe their lieftenant general of horfe and made prince by the emperor, will not be commanded by Breedroode; nor will the lord of Beverwaert their major general fubmitt to him; and Holland will not confent, that prince William of Friefland commaund in chief, left he fhould feducethe armye, and declare for the young prince of Orange. Indeed thefe cuntryes are fick of difcontents, and apparently will be ruined by them. Trade, which is the only prop that upholdes them, growes every day worfe and worfe, whereof I heare all men complayne. Here is arrived 4 fhipps from the Eaft Indyes, and 9 more expected, the which revives them. They fear we fhall gett the trade of the Weft Indies from them, from whence is expected great newes concerning general Penn's fleet. Sir Richard Malleverer is gone to Ceullen, to make his report to C. S. He fayes, that he hopes to gett moft of his eftate againe out of your handes; to which purpofe his lady is now follicitinge at London. He hath brought letters of credit for 400 l. and expects 6 horffes from England, 2 of which are in the handes of lord Willoughby of Parham, which ftill gives mee a jealousie, that he was acquainted with the laft plott. I prefume 'tis he, that is to defire a pafs for his horffes, whereof you may make ufe, as you fee occafion. He fayeth, that if they had gone to York with thofe few men, they might have had the towne delivered, where laye 40 thoufand poundes ready for the profecutinge of the defingne. He left Armorer in London, and Darcy within 10 myles coming up, where they make their rendezvous. There is a great fault in your officers at Dover; for the cavaliers faye, any of them can pafs there for 20s. but muft take the opportunitye, when Dutch fhipps come over. Therefore if ftrict fearch wear made in them, you would meet with our enemyes. I am at a place at prefent, where I can neyther get good papers or pen; therefore you will please to excufe my fcribblinge. This is what I have to advife you this tyme; only fhall ad, that I am

Your moft faythfull humble fervant,

June 18, 1655. [N. S.]

JOHN ADDAMS.

Mr. Richard Heneage to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxi.
p. 169.

I Humbly acknowledge my unworthines, I fhould prefume to withdrawe your highnes thoughts from your farre more waihty confiderations, to take notice of any thinge my weake apprehenfions can meete withall. Yet in cafe of but a fufpicion of the leaft dainger to the publique welfare foe happily fetled under your highnes protection, (the prefent condition of this county ftandinge as it doth,) I thought it my duty to give your highnes information of fome late tranfactions, which have within thefe fewe days come to my knowledge neere the place where I live. Allthough it hath pleased the Lord in mercy in fuch an unexpected manner to difcover the late plotts of the common enemye, for which the hand of juiftice in fome mefure hath light upon them; yet it's feered they will not yet ceafe. Upon thurfday laft (beinge but two dayes fince) a meetinge (to the number of aboute 20 perfons) was taken notice of at the houfe of one mr. Kinafton's of Oatley (an efq; of this country of confiderable meanes and command in his neighbourhood, having bine in armes for the late king, and lately secured (though fince enlarged) as one of fir Thomas Harrys his confederacys in the late plott) amongst which company was one major Cole, who was prefent with fir Thomas Harrys at the tyme of his apprehenfion, and fled, yet nowe prefumes againe to fhew himfelfe. Allfoe one Hurleifton, whoe, as is informed, was a coll. for the late kinge, and of the Hurleiftons of Chefter, in one of whofe howfes fir William Malevory was taken, and afterwards efaped from Chefter. The names of the reft I cannot yet lerne; but by their associates fufpected to be of the fame fether. Whether there hath been any the like meetinges in other places in this county, a fhorte tyme will produce. This meetinge putts many well affected perfons here into fufpition of fome new defigne in hatchinge; it beinge taken notice of in the

the county of Mountgomery (as I am credibly informed) that divers disaffected persons of quality in that county, whoe at the tyme, when Kinaaston shewed himself there, weere seene abroad in armes, ready to have joyned with that party, and have beene never yet questioned. These things cominge to my knowledge, beinge in my owne neighbourhood, in regard informations of this nature (which should be of the speediest passage) are sometye slowe paced, if conveyed through many hands, I thought it my duty to present from my owne immediate, though soe meane a hand, to your highnes consideration; and doe humbly and sincerely professe my selfe,

One of the faithfull, though unworthiest
of your highnes late comissioned officers
in the county of Salop,

Salop, June 8, 1655.

RIC. HENEAGE.

Mr. Samuel Morland to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

I Gave your honour an account in my last, of the good successe wee had at the court of France, which I sent with all the expedition I possible could, together with the king and cardinal's letters to his highnesse, and count Brienne's to your selfe, by the messenger, that I tooke up at Dover; which I hope is arrived ere this at London; as also of that respect, which was shewn us by his majestie at our departure, by sending with us a convoy, consisting of the captaine and 5 others of his majestie's own guard, 21 English miles; and besides that one of the chiefe courriers of his cabinet to conduct us throughout the whole journey, in case wee found it necessary. Hee has already accompanied us to the court of Paris, which place I entered in a disguise, and where we are very privatly; and where wee have provided our cloths and other necessaries for our journey. And indeed I doe plainly find upon enquiry and serious consideration, that as hitherto wee could hardly have passed so much as one stage, for want of horses, without him; so neither can wee proceed on in our journey, if we want his assistance. For my own particular, since first setting out, I have seen such remarkable providences, not onely in our successe at the court of France, but also in our manie deliverances from very eminent daingers (the particulars whereof to recite would bee too tedious) that I doubt not but his highnesse and your honour will in the issue receive abundant satisfaction in all things, save onely in the expedition and expence of our journey. As for the first of these, I am afraid your honour expects wee should have been further onwards in our journey; but I trust, when your honour shall consider the impossibilitie of getting post-horses between Calais and the court, and our avoyding the common road, with those other accidents, which usually attend such a voyage, it will bee some satisfaction. And as to the other, namely, the expence hitherto, although it has been much more then the council or your honour did expect, yet when the particulars, which I have here inclosed, shall bee considered, with their circumstances, both of the increase and almost the doubling of our number allotted us, and that necessarily; together with those gratuities, which wee apprehend unavoydable in all ingenuity, and having respect to the honour of my lord protector, I trust also that our behaviour may admitt of a favourable construction; at least the excesse thereof may be imputed to our weaknesse, rather then any wilfull negligence, prodigalitie, or dishonest dealing. As to that part, which followes of our journey, wee find upon enquiry, that it is from Paris to Turin 164 leagues, which is 82 stages, at every of which wee must pay for every horse, according to the king's own order, (which is a known and constant price) 20 sols, which is in English money 1 s. 8 d. Now wee being six in companie, must bee forced to take 2 guides (according to the custom of the country) for so many horses, which will bee therefore 8 in number; and so every stage will amount to 13 s. 4 d. for horse-hire, besides, the two guides must have ten sols apiece, which is 1 s. 8 d. which being added to 13 s. 4 d. makes 15 s. the whole horse-hire for one stage; so that for 82 stages, according to this account, our horse-hire from Paris to Turin will amount to 61 l. 10 s. And supposing that wee shall be 10 dayes (which will bee the least) in riding it, wee finding dyet extraordinary deare in this country, and even double to what it is in England; and having with us a servant of the king's, cannot think to come of for lesse than 25 s. and sometimes much more; which will come to 12 or 14 l. more at the least. Besides all this, wee heare wee must have a convoy, when wee come into Savoy, being the French army is thereabouts. Upon the whole it appears by our bills wee have but 50 l. 3 s. 9 d. left of 300 l. which wee have already received; and wee have but 100 l. more allowed to take up; which in all is 150 l. whereof 75 l. or 80 l. will be spent ere wee arrive at the court of Turin. Wherefore

A. D. 1655. fore wee doe earnestly entreat your honour, to the end that wee may not run the hazard of any extremitie or inconvenience, to send us so soon as possible bills of credit, with such reserves, that wee may take up what moneyes wee shall find necessary, to mr. Heusch; and I have taken order with him to convey them to us at Turin; as also wee intreate your particular orders concerning what gratuity my lord protector will bee pleased to give the king of France his gentleman. I suppose hee expects, if he goe through with us and back againe, no lesse then 100 pistolls. However that I leave wholly to my lord protector and your honour's order; which I shall endeavour to follow precisely, as in all things else. I have wrote a duplicat of this letter, but least they should both miscarry, I have entreated my merchant mr. Heusch to give us a bill of credit for 50 pistolls more, besides what you ordered by exchange to receive at Turin; for which he has engaged mee, to entreat your honor to give order for the payment of those 50 pistolls to mr. Lucas Luce at London. Wee are now hastning our journey. I trust the Lord is with us. I am willing to hazard all that is deare to mee in the cause.

Right honourable,

Paris, June 1st, 1655.

Your most humble and affectionat servant,

SAM. MORLAND.

An abstract of a letter from Cologne, sent by mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg.

June 1st, [1655.]

Vol. xxvii.
p. 285.

WE expect here daily the lord Belcarres, who is in the way, and when he comes, something will be attempted. He comes with instructions for a full reconciliation 'twixt the queen and 194. The lord Wentworth is now returned hither, where he hath but little credit. Wilmot is yet in England, and Middleton is now at Munster, coming hither. His great crony sir Edward Hyde, hath sent thither the lord Newburgh, sir William Fleming, sir George Hamilton, and William Armorer the engineer, and Genhos the trumpet to convey him, as if he had deserved a triumph. The lord Gerard is gone to Heidelberg to make his condition with prince Rupert to go into Italy. Just now mr. Brienne, formerly a captain in France under lord Digby, and mr. Williams, one of mr. Ascham's murderers in Spain, are come hither from England.

A letter of intelligence.

Vienna, July 19, 1655.

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 540.

I CAME hither but this morning, and in post from Presburg; but one is come in two days less than I, who brings for certain, that the young archduke Ignatio Leopoldo is elected king of Hungary by universal applause the 16th instant, which is the great news of those parts, and welcome hither. This is of great concernment, and much difficulty was to bring it to the pass. Many will be drunk before night about it.

The king of Swedeland assures the emperor, that he will not undertake any thing against him or the empire, but perform the treaties of peace made, notwithstanding the emperor arms and recruits daily his old standing regiments. The empress was crowned the 6th of this month.

Some say the Swedes will agree with the Polander, and give them relief against the Muscovites. Others not, but that Swedeland will downright fall upon Poland; so yet no certainty.

Of R. C. or his affairs not a word here, *mortuus est*. I am weary, but however,

Sir, yours.

A letter of intelligence.

Cologne, June 19, 1655. [N.S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 388.

YOURS I received by this post, by which I see all is quiet with the protector and his government. I have not writ to you last week being indisposed, and having little matter. For news, we have not much. This little court lives still in some splendor; and I protest

protest I wonder by what means, for it cannot be the stipend which France allows, that A. D. 1655 supports it; and the monies given by the empire are long since exhausted; so that certainly they have some other secret ways to get monies; and what they be I know not.

Here has been lately from France (as I am told by a good author) one monsieur Fontanelles, sent very secretly by Mazarin to confer with R. C. and take it from me, at present they have some treaty in hand; my authors assure me of it, and that the principal part is for R. C. to marry one of the cardinal's nieces. Some more of this matter you may shortly hear by some other way. It is no new matter, for it was contrived in Paris before the late rising in England betwixt R. C. and Mazarin; but the little queen gave interruption to it, Now it is freshly retreated. They talk here of a new design in England. R. C. and his brother Gloucester are very well, and their whole court. I believe the princess royal will be soon here; to which end her brother has taken the whole house where he lived, when your friend was here; and the lady of that house has taken another for her own dwelling near it. General Middleton came to Munster in Westphalia yesterday or the day before. The lord Newbury, sir George Hamilton, and several others are gone thither to conduct him hither. I hear the noble cavalier came over in a low condition. Ormond, Daniel O Neil, young Belinge, secretary Lane, with one or two more did lately visit the duke of Newburg by R. C.'s orders. They made no longer stay than for one dinner.

The prince of Stabulo did lately visit R. C. here, and was received with as much honour as his person and quality requires.

Mr. Talbot parted from hence, but whither, I do not know; he has some officious business *præmanibus*, one blind plot or other; but sure they are wiser now in England, than further to ruin themselves for a known cursed generation, or else they are equally cursed.

The lord Wentworth is come hither; but Wilmot is still abroad, *vivus aut mortuus nescio*. As I hear, my lord Gerard will shortly go for France.

But I have no assurance of it, nor what his business may be. Here is nothing else, that I know of at present; when there is more, you shall have it from

Yours, &c.

Heinsius, the Dutch resident in Sweden, to Ruysch.

Nobilissime et amplissime vir,

NON semel jam per literas te monui, quam magnos per hanc civitatem strepitus exci- Vol. xxvii.
tarit apparatus Belgarum foederatorum navalis. In aula quoque iis exceptus est vulgo P. 215.
fermonibus, qui pacati nihil praesagiant aut expectent; quo magis doleo, vix quicquam ad me perferri eorum, quae huc spectantia celsissimus nuper senatus decrevisse dicitur, cum ad Suecos omnia tam minima quam maxima accurate perferbantur. Mandatis certe instruendus eram, si non luculentis solidisque, at iis tamen, quae rumoris pertinaciam coererent nonnihil ac frangerent. Nunc fit, ut regis procerumque congressu sedulus me subducam, ne pertractus ab iis in hujus argumenti colloquia, in quae pertrahendum me fore praevideo, parum ad rem respondeam, & imprudens quid peccem ex rerum gestarum ignorantia, quam illos, pro subdola ac maligna ignorantiae simulatione interpretaturos, atque hoc ipso suspicionibus constantius indulturos, certum est. Auguror tamen ea proxime ad futura mandata, quibus tuto impofterum adquiescam, quaeque omnem prorsus fluctuationem animo meo evellant. Ex Belgarum classe Balticum mare aditurâ jam solvisse quinque naves nunciantur; secuturas septem aut octo alias, idque sine morâ, fert rumor, nescio an verè. Praestaret tamen, si quid iudico, nullas omnino mitti, quam mitti adeo paucas, quae nec praesidio possint esse, et si quid in onerarias hostile Sueci tentent, facili negotio cedant, si onerarias tueantur irritò conatu. Viginti sex aut triginta ad minimum mittendae videntur, quae in omnem eventum paratae adcurrant, ac sint praesto. Sed confido sapientissimum senatum huic rei, ut par est, abunde prospecturum. Interim persuadearis velim, ut credas, hoc tam exiguo numero non minus offendendum regem fore, quam si classem ex Belgio validissimam adfore intelligat. De re exploratâ loqui me arbitrare jam ter quaterve in meis, . . . quae classem regiam spectarent, ejusque indicem ad te dedi satis accuratum, daturus paulo accuratiorem hodie, si potero; sin minus, proxime. Ex quadraginta navibus eam constitutam Sueci audacter adfirmant; sed non persuadent; habeo enim compertum vix posse per totam Sueciam corradî tot naves bello idoneas. Vicenas possident, duabus fortassis additis, egregias omnino, firmissimasque. Cæteræ aut invalidæ ac cariosæ sunt, aut minutæ. Omnes tamen, tam hæ quam illæ, tormentis bellicis iisque magnæ molis probe instructæ. Navalium sociorum quinque millia conscripta esse dicuntur; classis ipsa rebus necessariis necdum plene est instructa, ut tricenae naves vix sit exhibitura, nisi mense integro, etiamnum in hoc portu hæreat. Tres ex iis jam altum tenent, quarum prima

Vol. III.

6 U

Wittenbergium,

A. D. 1655. Wittenbergium, secunda Ulefeldium vexit; utrumque in Pomeraniam, tertia Lenen-
 hoofdium in Livoniam. Quarta etiam parata est, quæ comitem Magnum eodem perferat.
 Rex profectionem differre pergit. Alii peractis comitiis mox abiturum ferunt; alii
 hic moraturum, dum certius intelligat, quid sibi sit expectandum de nostra republica. Ora-
 tor Gallicus, qui sequi castra decreverat, necdum cogitationes istas projecit, etsi rex
 quodam modo præ se ferat non fore sibi valde acceptum publicorum ministrorum comita-
 tum. Missus est legatus in Daniam, qui agat cum rege Daniæ de arcendis mari Baltico
 exteris navibus. Id jam communicavit is illi cum cancellario, nam rex Daniæ abest, idque
 studio fortassis et datâ operâ: qua de re plura proximis. De electore Brandenburgico quæ
 sparguntur, tam hic quam apud vos, falsa esse ac temerè conficta opinor. Aliquam ad-
 hibui diligentiam, ut in rem inquirerem; non est tam bono in hac aulâ loco, quam jacta-
 tur esse. Vale, vir nobilissime, amplissime, et favorem celsissimi senatûs conciliare mihi
 perge. Dabam Holmiæ $\frac{2}{5}$ Junii 1655.

Sibi devotissimus.

Sign.

N. HEINSIUS.

Heinsius, *the Dutch resident at Sweden to the states general.*

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 221.

MY lords, these four following holidays have rendered this week altogether fruitless,
 there having been nothing transacted of moment in regard of publick affairs;
 wherewith the court is still very busy. The thanksgiving day, which was said should
 have been yesterday, is deferred till next week. Courtland is resolved to accept of the
 protection of this state and crown. Whether Lithuania will do the same, is still ex-
 pected, whereof is doubtfully spoken. The lord Christiern Bonde, who is designed for
 ambassador extraordinary for England, is still in this court, but doth intend to depart
 hence very suddenly. The lord treasurer, count Magnus Gabriel de la Garde, doth in-
 tend to embark himself within few days to be transported for Lyfland, there to officiate
 the charge of governor general. Concerning his majesty's departure there do still pass
 several discourses; and some are of opinion, that the same is deferred for a while
 longer, in regard the general assembly doth draw to a conclusion, whereof he doth intend
 to see an end before he departs.

Viole, *president of Bruffels, to Barriere.*

Bruffels, June 19, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 233.

I Have received your letter of the 10th, whereby I perceive, that your affairs are still
 in the same condition. Ours here do not advance much neither. His highness sent
 me word, that the enemy was quartered near Guise; and that Turenne and la Ferte
 were joined; but had not undertaken any siege, neither could he well tell what place
 they aimed at. His highness hath also writ to you to send back mr. de Chastemelle, with
 orders for the receiving of the fifty thousand crowns at Antwerp; and he hath writ to me
 to confirm the same thing unto you. I make no doubt, but you will do it punctually.
 I send you a cypher, which you are to make use of. The marquis of Cugnac is going
 to serve under his highness in the army, who hath provided a place for him.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, June 19, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 229.

THE queen of England was sick this week of a pain in her side and back: she was
 let blood on thursday, and had an ill night; was better yesterday, since when I
 heard nothing.

Cardinal de Retz hath written to his chapter at Nostredame, nominating two priests
 to be his vicars general, others than those whom the court appointed. The letter was
 brought by a stranger, and delivered when the chapter were met together; and being
 opened before it was known from whence it came, it was read by the Greffier; and after-
 wards

wards two of the canons went to the chancellor to acquaint him with it. He blamed them for reading of it, for the king had forbidden any letters to be received from the cardinal de Retz; but he gave no further answer, till he should know the king's pleasure. But the cardinal de Retz's pleasure and command is now known. The men appointed for vicars by him, as well as those whom the king formerly appointed, have notice thereof; they are all sworn to canonical obedience to their archbishop. What will be hereupon done, we look after, as much as some in London do after Coney's cause. By that time you let me know the issue of the one, I may be able to tell you the event of the other. The news, which I most look after, is the proceedings of the treaty with monsieur de Bordeaux, for the consequence thereof will concern some of your friends.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, June 12, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

OUR army on the frontiers of the Spanish Low Countries lies as yet without action, Vol. xxvii. and Paris without news from those parts. You have perhaps already heard, that the P. 225. king, queen, and duke of Anjou were all in the same danger, as well as in the same coach. The two first horses had already precipitated themselves beside the bridge; the rest were following; but several of the footmen leaping suddenly to the wheels, held the coach till the traces were cut, and so the disaster prevented. The king's countenance not so much as changed; for though his person was nigh the danger, his courage was above the fear. In Catalonia the prince of Conti hath done something, a town called Cap de Quiers rendered after some six days siege. Victories are still represented with advantage. It is reported, that this town, though little, is of great importance, as facilitating much the commerce between Languedock and Catalonia.

As for what concerns the protestants in Savoy, the king disowns the action, as done without all order from him, as having his protection to all that are retired into his dominions.

Brienne to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

June 19, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

I COULD have been easily persuaded not to have returned any answer to your letter of Vol. xxvii. the 9th of this month, which was delivered me yesterday in this town, because in my P. 237. foregoing the king had sufficiently declared himself, what were his intentions, and how gladly he had received what was proposed to him on the behalf of the protector, which both his letter and the reception shewn to the gentleman will bear witness thereof; so that we may have cause to believe that the treaty is signed.

My lord ambassador Servien hath writ me word, that the duke of Savoy having taken into consideration the counsels of his majesty, had graciously answered to the commissioners of the protestant cantons, who had been to speak with him about that business; to whom he made it appear, that it was not out of hatred to their religion that he caused his subjects to be punished, but for rebelling against his commands, and breaking his laws several times; and for coming into those places, where he had not given them leave to inhabit; and had they kept in their bounds, he would not have assaulted those miserable creatures; but they would not be contented with what they had, but came and made inroads into his country, which he was resolved not to suffer. If this being said will advance the signing of the treaty, you may do it.

We do believe here, that the marquis of Leda hath already taken his leave, and is upon his way home, having received orders to that purpose. We are certainly informed, the enemy is resolved to stand upon their defensive this summer. This is enough to justify their weakness. We are ready to go upon some design; our generals are already gone upon it; but I cannot yet assure you, what it is; but we intend to make war in the heart of the country, they having no forces on foot sufficient to withstand us. It doth highly concern the interest of his majesty's affairs at present to see an end of your treaty.

Cardinal

Cardinal Mazarin to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

La Fere, June 19, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

A. D. 1655

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

YOU will be informed of the intentions of the king by the letters of the earl of Brienne, to which I refer my self. I am persuaded that at present the people in England do begin to see the wrong they have been in, by giving too much credit to the reports of the business of Lucerne; since they will have heard, that as soon as his majesty had been advertised of what had past in those parts against the protestants, he sent presently thither to intercede for them; and gave his orders to monsieur Lesdiguières, to receive them in Dauphiné, which is altogether publick, and long before the arrival of the envoy of the lord protector. In short and in truth, he is a sovereign prince, and no ways depending upon the king, who would chastise some of his subjects, whom he had declared rebels, and who without explaining his designs to the troops of the king, who were marching over the mountains to go to the relief of the duke of Modena, did only assign them their quarters in the vallies of Lucerne, and Angrogne, whose inhabitants making profession of the protestant religion refused to receive the said troops. This denial having caused the soldiers to quarrel with the said inhabitants, there were some fifty of them killed, without any other cruelty exercised upon them, unless they were those which they exercised themselves; for they committed a hundred times worse cruelties upon the catholicks. This is the true matter of fact.

By the committee of officers at commissary general Whalley's house.

Saturday, June 9, 1655.

Vol. xxvii.
p. 207.

IN pursuance of your order of the 7th instant, we have informed our selves of the matters of fact concerning the stopping of 9 pence per week out of the pay of the Irish foot now in England; and do find, that since October 1653, the foot soldiers in Ireland have been paid 5 s. 3 d. to each per week, of which they receive weekly three shillings and six pence in money, one brown George valued at 12 d. and the remaining 9 d. per week hath been stopped to buy for each of them one suit of cloaths yearly. That the Irish foot now in England were so paid from the said month of October 1653, untill the day of their landing in England, being the 15th of January last; and each of them in October last had one suit of cloaths delivered to him.

That by an order of his highness and the council, bearing date the 2d day of March following, the foot forces, that came out of Ireland, are ordered to be paid from the 15th of January (the time of their landing in England) equally with the forces in England, that since that time they have received for each foot soldier five shillings and one penny per week; and the remaining nine pence hath been respited for clothes; so that there remaineth due to each foot soldier of them, that have been in the service since October last unto this day, for the said time, being 8 months, at the rate of 9 d. per week, twenty four shillings; and so proportionably to each of them that hath been listed since.

EDW. WHALLEY.
G. DOWNING.
W. GOFFE.

A letter of intelligence.

St. Lucar, June 20, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xlvii.
p. 241.

IT is no new thing in me to desire, that occasions should offer, when I may serve you, and to desire to know of your health, and to advise you (as I now do) of the estate, which things seem to have at present betwixt this kingdom, and that commonwealth. I wrote you days past by sea twice, and depending on the favour you always shew me, I desire you to put an end unto my business; for the fears, which we have at present, do rather promise discord than agreement, by reason of the coming of Blake's fleet (about thirty sail) when we were with much confidence sending of an advice to the Havanna, that the galleons might securely come without fear of any hurt from the English, which, 'tis said, are gone thither. Then Blake came again to the Canvelo's, and was there about eight days, where having refreshed himself, and the general holding worse correspondence

dencies than he ought with such a gentleman as the duke of Medina Celi, who lives at A. D. 1655. the port, and offered him the port freely; but having provided all he would, he put to sea again, leaving two ships behind him to bring his revenge which he wanted, and carried with him James Wilfon, who was agent in Cadiz for the parliament, besides others, which he brought along with him from Malaga, who were employed in making some provisions for the English fleet; and as it appears this fleet is come from the Levant, with a design to wait for our galleons, and to carry them; for very often they repart themselves in three squadrons, and the English merchants of these parts procure to embark themselves for England. The duke of Medina Celi hath been in the bay of Cadiz, seeking ships of war to put to sea about fourteen or sixteen sail; and hath sent to Seville for artillery, and hath ordered, that the fleet for new Spain do not proceed, but to retire to Puntall, where it is ordered, that a claim may be made for security, until new order shall come from the council.

There came three Flemish ships into Cadiz six days past, who brought a Turkish prize; and they told for news, that they met the aviso, which came from Carthagen; but in chasing their Turkish prize, they lost the aviso; and this day it is reported, that the said aviso is arrived at Ayamonte (with many dead Turks, which they killed out of three Turkish ships that they encountered) and it is said, that the English fleet arrived at Carthagen, where the galleons were in assault. The English lost three thousand men, by which means the galleons will stay until a fleet go for them. This news I cannot affirm, being uncertain, in regard I have not talked with, nor seen any that came in the ship.

A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.

Rome, June 21, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

IT is thought that the bargain made by mr. Scotti of cardinal Montalto's country-house Vol. xxvii. will be ineffectual, by reason his holiness will not, because of the judgment every one P. 267. would make, that this acquisition was bought for his holiness's family, which makes us conjecture, that his holiness is not yet disposed to call for any of his kindred, what necessities soever be represented unto him thereupon.

Cardinal de Este is upon his departure for Modena, where he will remain, whilst the duke his brother shall be in the field, where he goeth to command his troops.

The Venetian ambassador continues his instances to obtain from his holiness the forces, which have been raised a while since for the security of the ecclesiastical state; but his holiness cannot give it this campagne, by reason of the war with Modena, which obligeth him to maintain some troops.

The Spaniards here are something astonished at the taking of Cap de Quieres in Catalonia, as also at the marriage of cardinal Mazarin's niece with the prince of Modena, which makes them think the French will succour the duke of Modena. A great disorder was like to happen some days since in the datary; and to make an exemplary punishment thereof upon all the guilty they have sent for all the soldiers, and serjeants, and ushers; but it hath been only a mistake made of an old custom, which is, that in all the expedition of the coadjutories of benefices, situated beyond the mountains, they are used to antedate the bulls of two months, for fear that, in the length of the time there must be to obtain them, the possessor of the benefice should come to die, as it happeneth very often.

An intercepted letter.

St. Barnabas Day, June 11, [1655. N. S.]

DEARE FREIND,

YOU see how I take your diurnall sencer's worke out of his hands, changing a shilling Vol. xxvii. into small moneys, and making many little letters serve for the greater one I promised p. 263. you.

Since you and I knew each other, never were such times as these now instant upon us.

On saturday last were committed to the Tower, lord Will. of Parham, lord Franc. Newport and his brother mr. Harry Seymour, mr. Jeffry Palmer, and sir Orlando Bridgman must follow thither as soone as gout will give him leave; besides, multitudes more taken in London, sir Frederick Cornwallis, &c. and in Oxonshire lord Lovelace, lord Faulkland, sir John Burlacy, earl of Lindsy, *cum multis aliis*, lord Cambden, and God knowes who else in other parts; hundreds more (they say) are in his highness's pocket. And none that I can meet with can so much as guesse the businesse.

VOL. III.

6 X

The

A. D. 1655.

The great seale is taken away from the commissioners, and judge Rolls has his *quietus* without; but whether that within, lett others judge.

Wee every day expect a proclamation; and what then, you will know hereafter.

The honest clergy are in a most tottering condition; so that your friend mr. Williams will scarce be able to serve you any longer in that measure he desires to do. At present he willed me to tell you, he will make that little he has up to 10 l. and returne it you this week; only he sayes he is sorry he must reckon in this summe the bookes he lately sent you. God prepare us for worfe times, if worfe can come. But come what times will, I cannot be altered from being yours everlastingly,

GIL. SAVAGE.

Wee shall suddenly have greate offices, lord Richard Cromwell, admirall and lieutenant of the Tower; lord Harry lieutenant of Ireland; Fleetwood lord treasurer. And now—we are accountable for our actions to none but God.

The superscription,

*A monsieur monsieur George, à Laon, il faut le
laisser chez monsieur la Fontaine aux trois
Burfes, Rue St. Honore à Paris.*

An extract of a letter from Geneva, June 12, 1655. [N. S.]

In the posses-
sion of the
right honour-
able Philip
lord Hard-
wicke, lord
high chancel-
lor of Great-
Britain.

GALLUS negat factum esse jussu suo, quod milites Galli carnificinæ Pedemontanorum interfuerunt, sed autoritate principis Thomæ Sabaudi, qui copiis Gallicis præfectus est. Excusat tamen illum aliquatenus, quia nempe, cum deducturus esset exercitum Gallicum, Mutinam versus iter faciens, existimavit se posse rebelles subditos domare, neque enim, ait, polemarchis præfiguntur limites augusti adeo. Scio tamen mandatum regimæntis aliquibus datum ab iis, qui principis locum tenebant, ut fratres Pedemontanos aggredierentur, non fuisse executioni mandatum, quia renuerunt id præstare; atque idcirco electi fuerunt aliqui ex singulis regimentis, qui id operæ vellent suscipere. Audimus abinde regem Gallæ protectionem suam offerre ac conferre fratribus nostris Pedemontanis, sed (in cauda venenum) prohibet, ne quispiam actus hostilis extat adversus ducem Sabaudia et subditos ejus. Venit ad nos nudius tertius pastor nomine fratrum Pedemontanorum renunciatus, deputatus ab Helvetiis nocuisse, non profuisse, quia dum colloqueretur cum nostris, quos advocaverat in regionem proximam, Sabaudi milites fratrum milites propulerunt Lucernâ, non sine jacturâ. Deinde deputatus suasit duci suspensionem armorum per semestre, quam promisit ei se persuasurum fratribus Pedemontanis. Nostri verò videntes in eo positum esse certum exitium suum recusarunt, ac meritò quidem; quod dux illis vitio vertit, ansamque inde arripit pertensam eorum ambitionem exaggerandi. Conceperant Sabaudi verendum esse, ne Helvetii arma fumerent hac occasione; at metum illum ut abjicerent fecit deputatio postrema, non vitio et culpa deputantium, sed deputati. Vix ulla spes affulget aliunde quàm à D. D. protectore, potentissimo Dei organo ad gloriæ ipsius promotionem. Deus O. M. et pietati ejus, et zelo, et copiis bene omnia succedere jubeat. Galli omnes Helvetique Germani non pauci collectas eleemosynarias iis parant, at homines vix possunt ministrare, ni adsunt hortamenta prægnantiora. Deus ex alto velit animos et zelum addere. Si nostri, quorum exercitus est mille hominum audaciâ leoninâ, melius dixerim, heroicâ, instructorem ducem aliquem, ac præfectum haberent experientissimum; si homines aliquot supervenirent armati, vel inermes faciliè in ipsa regione armandi, res eorum in tuto esse posita; alias sanè vix sufficere possunt tot conflictibus contra bis aut ter mille homines. Imò et si forent validiores, dux promptius et facilius adduceretur ad pacem aliquam cum iis ineundam, Quantum erit Deo gratum, domino protectoris serenissimi præsidium et opera, quam ministraturus est afflictissimis fratribus! quam bene merebitur de nostris ecclesiis! protector ille regum & protectorum velit illi Nestoreos annos, populos felices, successus exoptatos largiri, &c.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburgh, to secretary Thurloe.

HONORABLE SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 279.

THOUGH I have not received any from you theise two last posts, yet I may not omit my respects to you, though I have nothing to ad to this inclosed paper, theise parts affourding very little at present, save onely that the Swedes are at last upon their march towards

towards Pomerania, at least the resident hath sent me such word, that yesterday and to day A. D. 1655. they were by express commanded to move.

I waite your answer to my last and former weekes letters, hopeinge it will come in tyme for my direction against midsummer, the tyme of the election, which is all the trouble I shall give you at present, subscribinge,

Sir, your humble servant,

Hamb. Junii 12, 1655.

RICHARD BRADSHAW.

At instant comes newes, that the Swedes are not yet march out of the Stift of Breme.

Intelligence.

Stockholm, May 26, 1655. [S. V.]

NEWS little. Our whole time spent in putting the old news in execution, Count Vol. xxvii. Gustavus Lyenhofst feld-marshal of the Liefland army, being to depart within two or p. 283. three days to his command there. Count Magnus to follow in few days. The whole body of foot and horse here are to be imbarked the beginning of the next week for Pomerania; and the general opinion is, that his majesty will follow about 14 days hence.

Vienna, June 6, [1655. S. V.]

The coronation of our young prince Leopold remains still deferred, and it's believed, will not be solemnized untill the emperor (who refuseth to give satisfaction to the states of Hungaria in those things as are most just and reasonable) be brought to another pass, and something more tractable than he is at present. In the mean time, his majesty endeavours as much as in him lyes, to compleat his intended army, with all speed, against the Turks and Muscovites, whom we still suspect, the extraordinary delay of the Swedish design, having in a manner assured us, that by them there is no ill intended against us.

Dantzick, Junii 16, [1655. N. S.]

There is nothing as yet of what the parliament in Poland hath concluded. This day two embassadors are expected thence, bound for Sweden, with instructions for accommodation; the one a Pole, Lessensky by name (one of the greatest families in Poland) and the other a Littower, from Riga. They write, the Muscovites are beaten from Dimenberg, and that the Swedes march that way, to free that stream, which would be good for Riga. The sickness continues still amongst the Muscovites, who have not yet took the field.

Hamb. June 12, 1655. S. V.

The Swedish forces do not stir yet. Some say, they will not stir this fortnight yet. Most are of a contrary opinion; and that within two or three days, they will all leave the Stift of Breme, by reason of its insufficiency to maintain them any longer.

Their true design (notwithstanding the several opinions and constructions thereof) will not be discovered untill it discloses it self.

Mr. Aldworth, English consul at Marseilles, to mr. Petit.

$\frac{22}{12}$ June, 1655.

THE present is to let you know, that, according unto the order past in the king's Vol. xxvii. council, to release in all the French ports, the ships of our nation, which have been p. 275. arrested there, the duke of Vendome having released all those, which were kept from us here, he hath two days after caused them to be of new arrested; and hath told me, that he would release none, untill the articles of the peace with our commonwealth be signed; so that we must wait for that good news, before any of them can go out; although I have to that purpose, besides the publick order, a particular one of his majesty, which the said duke would not look upon, having told me, that he would answer unto the king for his actions. In all likelihood the fleet of Toulon is going either to Naples or to Barcelona. Eight ships are preparing to carry foot soldiers to Barcelona.

Besides

A. D. 1655. Besides the detention of the English ships at Marfeilles, another is amongst others detained at the port Louis in Bretagne, loaden with some Spanish wines, and other merchandizes, which are spoilt.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, June 22, 1655.

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 271.

SINCE the putting of the eight Latin verses mentioned in my last from the picture, which was distributed here of his highness the lord protector, to gratify the desire of the people to hear the explication of the same, they have been turned into French verses, a copy whereof I do send you here inclosed; that if you think it fit, you might get them printed there, none daring do it here. But if you send them hither afterwards, you will greatly oblige all honest men here. For I can assure you as of a most real truth, that his highness's picture and his praises thereto adjoined have caused here a very great terror to all the enemies of the truth. All good men, and especially the godly, that are under the oppression, do bless him and look upon his highness as upon their deliverer sent by God to deliver his people from the hard yoke of the Babylonian captivity. They pray incessantly to God, that he would please to preserve and protect his highness, that he might be instrumental in the preserving and advancing of God's work as gloriously as by his divine grace he hath begun. A great many here do revere his highness with their very heart, even his enemies are forced to confess, that he is an extraordinary person. I could have matter enough to enlarge this letter with many particulars concerning our poor prosecuted brethren in Savoy and Piedmont; but I was so prolix the last time, that I forbear further to trouble you at this time; only I shall desire you to take notice of this passage, that I am informed from a very good hand, that the queen mother to the king hath engaged and promised to assist the duke of Savoy against our party; and that if he will but continue the course he hath taken against them, and go on, he will not only receive assistance from France in that particular, but further this crown will furnish him with such forces and means as may enable him to take Geneva itself; which as it cannot be effected but by treachery, so it behooves that place to be watchful; and we have a great interest to prevent it, &c.

Lord chief baron Steele to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 289.

THIS day sending to enquire of mr. Southerne, I finde that being fitter for another, hee is translated out of this world, which till this day I remember not was ever made knowne to mee. I thought good upon notice hereof to signifie the same, for prevention any trouble his highnes might bee at in enquiring after him, because I perceived him yesterday rejoyced at the news of such a person. Having revolved in my thoughts since I sawe you what others there might bee, who are fitt in one capacity or other to supply the vacancies, that are or may bee in severall places, I have thought on mr. Martin of Lincolnes-Inne, and one mr. Taylor of Grays-Inne. The first, I suppose, is knowne to you; the other also is a person eminently religious, and I thinke was of mr. Lockyer's congregation, who can give a good accompt of him, if neede bee, and of the present posture of his spirit, which I so well knowe not. I mention these in reference to the places of mr. of requests, in cas those already in your eye should either declyne, or not bee judged so fitt. Mr. Graves I neede not tell you of. As the great busines lately communicated to mee by yourselfe, being assured, I blesse God, that the result will be for the best, I am in some good measure prepared for the issue, hoping that upon what I have declared to his highnes and yourselfe, noe alteration will bee made as to my condition; but upon the necessity of service to the glory of God, and good of the people, which yet I have noe reason to thinke, may not bee otherwise farre better provided for; but if it should otherwise happen, then this expectation is, I beg it of you, that I may first come alone to yourselfe before any other come, that shall bee therein concerned, or before any thing else bee done therein. Pardon this trouble from,

Sir, your very affectionate freind and servant,

June 12, 1655.

WILLIAM STEELE.

General

General Blake to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

f e c r e t instructions f e n t b y y o u r
 The 37. 24. 80. 36. 54. 38. 142. 67. 82. 32. 68. 21. 42. 72. 33. 69. 36. A. D. 1655.
 h i g h n e s r e f e r r i n g m e e t o Vol xxvi.
 27. 28. 56. 57. 62. 24. 37. 36. 24. 25. 54. 66. 36. 28. 32. 26. 31. 24. 24. 38. 33. P. 390.
 a f o r m e r instr. t o u c h h i n g t h e
 20. 25. 63. 94. 31. 24. 66. 142. 38. 63. 69. 22. 27. 27. 28. 32. 26. 38. 57. 24.
 f i l v e r fleet o f Spay. c o m i n g f r o m
 37. 28. 30. 39. 24. 66. 128. 33. 55. 105. 22. 33. 31. 28. 62. 26. 25. 36. 33. 61.
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 113. 28. 27. 50. 39. 24. 36. 24. 22. 24. 28. 39. 54. 53. 10. 37. 27. 50. 30. 30.
 c a r e f u l l y o b f e r v e t h e f a m e
 22. 50. 36. 24. 25. 39. 60. 60. 42. 33. 21. 37. 24. 36. 39. 24. 96. 85. 82. 67. 78. 31. 24.
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 38. 27. 54. 127. 40. 24. 52. 50. 90. 26. 24. 38. 34. 60. 42. 28. 32. 26. 33. 39. 24. 36.
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 78. 36. 54. 39. 24. 36. 42. 23. 28. 67. 38. 66. 69. 37. 38. 25. 39. 30. 30. 33. 25. 69. 95.
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 inst. i n e x e c u t i o n a s G o d f h a l l
 142. 28. 32. 54. 41. 24. 22. 39. 38. 28. 63. 62. 20. 37. 26. 33. 53. 37. 57. 20. 30. 30.
 a f f o r d e a n o p p o r t u n i t y
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 your highnes to rest assured 63. 25. 33. 39. 36. 23. 28. 30. 58. 26. 24. 32. 21. 54.
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 10. of the integrity of

Your most humble and faithfull servant,

George, June 12, 1655.

ROB. BLAKE.

Sir Benjamin Wright to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvii.
P. 329.

MY laste unto your honour was of the 16th present, giveing notice, that generall Blake was with his fleete before Cadiz, and had demanded leave to enter into the porte, to give careen unto some of his shipes, the which was granted him by order from hence; but then he would not enter, but wayed anchor the 14th of this month, and wente to sea carrying with him mr. James Willson, your agent ther, who embarkeinge without takeinge leave of any man, maketh all men to say, that your said fleete is gone to meete with our plate fleete, who wee dayly expect; for the ship of advize, that is last come, reporteth, that it was departed from Portovelo to the Havana. This ship bringeth noe newes of generall Penn, yet shee came from the Havana the begininge of Aprill. Wee are heere in extreame great feare, and it may be with reason; for some write from Cadiz, that generall Blake did tell some English merchants, that his designe was for the plate fleete. I have seene a letter that sayeth it, and both the duque de Medina Celi, and the condé de Molina, governor of Cadiz, writeth it to the kinge. Yet I cannot beleeve it, and so I tell them heere to comfort them; for I assure your honor, that they are mightly cast doune, and if you should take their fleete, they are quite gone; and all the English in this kingdome will suffer, yet none more than myselfe. God's will be done: my hope is to obtayne some imployment from his highnesse, by your honor's intercession, the which I beseech you to let me have, and a letter from you to encourage me to goe for England, for these people will looke ill upon me, yf you doe them any harme either in ther Indias, or in ther fleete; for they know, that I correspond with your honor. Yf your fleete meddleth not with ther plate fleete, then I presume henceforwards they will looke with different eyes and attention upon his highnesse letters of recomendation. I have bin a litle free with them in that particular some four dayes since, and I hope your honor will be pleased to lett the embassadour know what I writt you in my laste, that they may write hether, otherwayes I see little hopes to obtayne any satisfaction. Sir, the subject of my writeing to your honor now, is only to lett you know the care wee are in for our plate fleete, and so I beg to remayne

Your honor's most humble servant,

Madrid, June 23, 1655. [N. S.]

BENJAMIN WRIGHT.

SIR,

Rogationes are made in all convents of fryers and nunnes by command of the king for the safe arrivall of the plate fleete. The men of warre, that are in Cadiz and should have gone for Barcelona, as in my former I advized your honor, are now makeinge redy with all speede with some other shipes, that the comercio of Seville setteth forth, to goe meete the plate fleete, as also some 8 shipes of warre that are in passage neere San Sevastian. They may be in all some 16 to 20 shipes, and yf those they expect from Naples come in time, they shall goe alsoe, for our feare is farr greater then I can expresse it. There is come into Cadiz a Holland ship of warre, that sayeth the 6th of this month he mett of the Cape San Vinzente with a shipe of advize, that came out of the Havana the first of May, and losse her by meanes of fowle weather in the night; and beinge shee is not arrived at Cadiz, they heere imagen that generall Blake hath mett with her, and deteyneth her; but I beleeve shee hath bin mett with by some Argier man of warre, for soe one mr. Marston writeth me from Seville of the 15th present. The Holland man of warre sayeth nothing of haveinge met with generall Blake, who went forth but the day before; soe I comforte up those people, tellinge them, that Blake is gone for Salley, as one writt me from Alicante some dayes since. This I have understood since I writt my letter; what else I shall heare I will advize your honor, though I know I endanger myselfe in soe doeing; whereof I beseech you take notice.

B. W.

Caillet, the prince of Condé's secretary, to Barriere.

Mons, June 23, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxvii.
P. 323.

THE enemy hath at last resolved to invest Landrecy, which they have besieged for these five days. Their lines are finished, but we do not yet hear, that they have opened the trenches. As soon as the prince of Condé had notice thereof, he presently put in relief into Landrecy, being a regiment of horse of 600 men. All our troops both Spanish and others are marching to their relief.

Minard

Minard to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Paris, June 23, 1655. [N. S.]

THE siege of Landrecy will be one of the most serious occupations of the A. D. 1655. campagne.

The preparations for Italy have not yet produced any considerable effect. We have Vol. xxviii. advice, that the duke of Modena hath 5000 foot, and 1500 horse, with ten pieces of P. 325. ordnance, and that he hath sent to demand passage of the duke of Parma, to join his troops to those of the king.

The protestants have printed a manifesto, which is supposed will be answered by the duke, who hath enough on his side to be said for him for what hath happened. My lord your father is out of town, to divert himself for three or four days.

The king is still at La Fere.

A letter of a deputy of the reformed religion in France.

Paris, $\frac{23}{24}$ June, 1655.

THE deputies sent from Berne towards the duke of Savoy, to whome att first hee Vol. xxvi. answered, that he would advise thereupon with his councill, having bin towards P. 421. the said protestants, have found them resolved to give care to noe agreement, saying they canne find noe security with people, who thinck that perfidie is not only permitted them, but that it is also an effect of zeale; soe that with the help they have already received from severall places, they shew what their dispaire and justice canne doe by all possible cruelties; it being certaine that severall Dauphinois and protestants of France are gone to joyne them, without that any notice be taken thereof here. Neverthelesse in the hopes our adversaries have of a misunderstanding betweene France and England, it seemeth, that the massacre of our brethren doth animate against us the false zeale of many places. And it's written from Metz in date of the $\frac{29}{29}$ instant thus:

Mareschal of Schomberg hath 4 days since cashiered 25 officers and inhabitants of this cittye, by reason they had not assisted unto the bonfires by him made for the exaltation of the pope, and those also, which were out of the cittye, although the papists which were absent have bin preserved. The rumour was, after that within 3 dayes all should bee massacred. The preceeding Sunday the Jesuites affected to fasten an alter before the minister's house, and another under a crosse neare the temple, where a curate endeavoured to make those, who passed there, pull of their hatts, and stayed severall persons before the said alters, which had almost bin the occasion of coming to blows.

It is much to be feared, that those violences will increase, unlesse that be stayd by some mighty consideration. It hath bin impossible to obtaine the changing of the decree given in the chamber of the edict of Paris against a poore man, who hath withdrawn himselfe before their sacrament, which doth in part oblige the député generall to goe to court to complaine thereof. There is noe certaine newes of any sledge; but all the preparations for some such desigine are gone from hence.

Letters of intelligence to mr. Petit.

Paris June $\frac{23}{23}$, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

THE king hath not been at Laon, as has been thought, but his eminency, who held Vol. xxvii. there a council of war with the mareschals of Turenne and la Forte, as also with the P. 337. marquis of Faber, who rendered themselves there. The last resolutions about the campagne were taken, in consequence whereof the armies begun to march. All the letters from Guise and St. Quintin bear, that Landrecy has been invested; but as that place is well provided of all necessaries, that siege is not thought to be undertaken. The prince of Condé is with a great body of horse near our army, to observe its designs, as also to cross them, if he can. Their majesties are still at La Fere. Marechal of Grammont hath been sent by his majesty to Guise, that he might stay there, and give order, that the army may want nothing. He is to have the same employment as had last year mr. de Tellier at Peronne during the siege of Arras. Mr. de Mercoeur is returned to Toulon with his galleys and ships, having left Rozes in a good condition. The 7th of this

A. D. 1655. this instant, being upon the port of Toulon with the duke of Vendosme his father, there broke an engine, which serves to stir ships, which did almost kill them both. Mr. de Mercoeur was cast down thereby, two seamen killed at his feet, and several others wounded. The affair of cardinal de Retz is still in the same posture. His majesty dispatched last week unto his holiness upon this subject. Yesterday arrived a post from Rome sent by mr. de Lionne, which has been but ten days coming; but the cause of this voyage is yet unknown.

The emperor raised 25 new regiments; which, besides the 19 he had present after the peace of Germany, will make an army of 30000 men. All the other princes of Germany are in arms, the Swedes designs being kept so close, that each one fears to be surpris'd. His Swedish majesty was expected at Stetin in Pomerania about the 25th past. He is to be accompanied in the field by six senators. Dantzick fortifieth itself. The king of Denmark is setting forth a sea-army. I think we shall in a short time see clear in the business.

Rome, May 31, 1655. [N. S.]

It was thought that the consistory, which was held this morning, would have brought forth some news; but it's found, that things are far enough from it. It is believed, that the pope will at last be forced to declare his nephew cardinal, to cause his coming into this court to help him in the administration of affairs; whereunto he must needs resolve himself, it being impossible for him alone to overcome them. However it is said, this will only be done towards the latter end of the year.

The pope's galleys will without fail part next week for Malta, and from thence to Candy; but as for the troops, which were marching towards Ferrara, for the Venetian service, good part there have disbanded themselves in the way.

A Letter of intelligence from the Hague.

SIR,

Brandenburg

Vol. xxvii.
P. 333.

THE treaty with 170 is still in the same condition as I have formerly mentioned. Those of 170 are very angry at the passage, which doth speak of introducing 130 into the treaty. Those of 170 declare, that they will not have any thing to do with 130. In short, they do give to understand, that 170 doth bear great enmity against 130; so that I do admire, that 105 will make 155 with such an enemy of 130, being consequently an enemy of all 173 and 174.

In Zealand the city Goes, Veer, and Flushing, have condemned the 174 at Tolen; and the 145 have yet a greater design, namely, to choose 148 and 149, and by that means to do the same as is done at 109. And it is said, that at Middleburgh and elsewhere in Zealand, the ministers do preach of 171 with 130 as a devilish business, at least for as much as is promised concerning 134; and it would be very requisite, that 130 should make some admonition to 106. In the mean time I understand, that 174 at Tolen will not be quiet; and at Goes 174 will endeavour to be masters.

The commissioners of 109 (being 145) are likewise in 106, and will have there a very good declaration for 145. Here enclosed I send you the project produced by 104, which you may be pleased to peruse. I remain

Your most humble servant.

June 23, 1655. [N. S.]

General

General Venables to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

SINCE my last of the fifth instant nothing hath occurred of any moment, save that A. D. 1655. some few have been taken prisoners, whom (as alsoe that are in the mountaines) wee desire to gaine by civillity; but the wants and disorders (which usually accompany them) of the souldiers are some rubbs in the way; the removing and punishing of which hath beene this daye's task. Yesterday general Pen gave mee notice, that he resolved to returne for England to morrow, by whom I could not omitt to kisse your highness hands, though in a weake condition, humbly craveing a speedy supply of ships and provisions of all sorts, with planting tooles. We have about 2000 men sicke: they dye daylye through want of bread and brandy, both which stores fall infinitely short of what was informed to, and beleevd by,

My lord,

June 13, 1655.

your highnes very faithfull servant,

R. VENABLES.

General Venables to secretary Thurloe.

HONORABLE SIR,

SINCE my last wee have onely taken some few prisoners; the rest continue in the Vol. xxvii. mountaines, wanting houses, bread, &c. willing to submit, if not awed by a few P. 305. and discouraged by some souldiers, that are unruly occasioned by extreame wante, which to redresse was the worke of this day; and wee hope to make them good subjects, being most of them Portuguezes. The Spaniards wee shall remove, and endeavour to gaine all of them by our civillity. Wee struggle with all difficultys, about 2000 men sicke. Wee fall short both in bread, brandy, &c. of what was promised, and wee beleevd was provided for us. We have not a three weekes bread, and little cassavy in the countrey, of which the enemye steales a share. Our men dye daylye, eating rootes and fresh flesh (when any food is gott) without bread, or very little, wee not daring on a suddaine to take them from bread, but by degrees accustom them to want that, which none will have five weekes hence at half a bisket a man *per diem*. There must some block-houses be erected at the harbor's mouth, were our men able to worke at such hard labour, which indeed I feare will not plant cassavy to feed them, or other necessaries to preserve life, many preferring, nay desireing death rather than life. Though they have recovered their hearts (courage I cannot say they had) which they lost at Hispaniola; yet I am confident they must not bee the men must carry on this designe in the feild, it may be, they may in countrey by plantinge, for I am confident had wee rayfed men all over England at adventure, wee should have beene better fitted then by those assigned us. Those with some other reasons have moved the counsell of warre to desire mee (if the Lord give health) to present our condition to his highnesse and counsell, with some expedients, which at present are not resolved upon; neither am I able to enlarge, haveing quite spent my spirits to give some competent accompte by generall Pen, who yesterday visited me, and tould me he resolved for England to morrow, a warning too short for mee to be large; who am so weake after a five weeke's fluxe, onely some few dayes intermission. The inclosed is a true accompt of this island, which for commoditys, ayre at least equalleth, and in scituation to annoy the Spaniard, exceedeth Hispaniola in the judgment of,

Your very humble obliged servant,

June 13, 1655.

R. VENABLES.

Account of JAMAICA.

THE island Jamaica belongeth properly to the duke of Veragua, who is lineally Vol. xxvii. descended from Christopher Columbus, the discoverer of the Indies, and not to the P. 659. duke of Medina, as was by some conceived.

The length of the island is computed to be from Punta Morante east, to Punta Negrillo west, to be fifty leagues; and the breadth from the port of Caguaya south, or St. Jago, to the port of S^a Anna Sevilla (where in time past the town was) towards the north about twenty leagues.

VOL. III.

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The

A. D. 1655

The chief ports of this island are 1. Caguaya before named, which serves to the town of St. Jago de la Vega, or St. James of the Plain, from whence it is about 2 leagues distant. The second port of any note on that south side is * Esquyvell, which is about 3 leagues distant from the former towards the west, which though the channel be, as of the former, difficult to find, is within a commodious haven; and in respect of an arm of the sea, which affords the commodity of building of shipping, within it is of singular commodity to the island. This arm of the sea extends itself a full league within the land, where it admits into it a small fresh brook, called El Rio de la Puente, which arising within two leagues of the town of St. Jago, and passing pleasantly through the savanas, is received by the arm before described, which is called Guavagera. The land between the town of St. Jago and this place is for the most part open, and savanaland well stored with cattle and horses. From thence to Maccario, which is about 6 leagues distant, the coast is good and fit for anchoring, but affords no port or harbour nearer than † Panda Botellio, which is a round mountain, about a league to the west of which a river called Mantinefs discharges itself into the sea. This river arises about a league or a league and half within the land, and abounds in fish, and is well stored with cattle upon the neighbouring hatos and savanas of Yama and Guatibacoa. Thence passing along the coast, the next place of goodness of land or conveniency of anchoring, and about 8 leagues distant from Paccaria, is Punta de la Gostas, which is in the hato of Pereda, which is one of the best and largest pieces of savana of the whole island, it being four leagues in length and more.

From Pereda to El Conde, another little port, is 5 leagues; between which two places falls into the sea the great river of Caobana, which arising in the mountains, passes through savanas of the same name well stored with cattle, and leaving the open land about a league from the sea, runs through woody and manguey or mangrove grounds, and is from the very savana of depth sufficient for most ordinary shipping, but narrow, as being overgrown by the mangroves for want of use or clearing, yet contained in the narrowest about 60 or 70 foot of breadth. At the mouth this river receives into it certain small brooks of fresh water, but of no other consideration than for fishing only, whereof it affords a plentiful commodity. The mouth of this river, by reason of the smallness of its fall, is barred with sands; so that unless at some times of considerable floods it hath not depth above four foot upon the said bar; but without it anchoring good enough in the open road, but harbour none. Next about 2 leagues distant is El Faido, which is a hato of some small savanas, but very great plenty of cattle abiding in the woods, which the Spaniards call ganados simarones, or wild cattle, as being not marked nor belonging to any one proprietor other than the chief lord and owner of this hato. In this hato is a small port called Porto del Conde of no great value or consideration. Thence to Punto Negrillo is no other port or harbour whatsoever; but passing by land is a hato called Cabonico, large and well stored with fowls both wild and tame. Thence next is called the savana of the sea, which reaches to the cape Negrillio from the Puerto de Caguaya, towards the east, is the hato de Lyguany, which is at the east side of the port itself, and presents to the harbour a large and well stored savana, with an arm of the port extending to it, commodious for the building of shipping there, being store both of cedars and other sort of timber convenient for that purpose. Next eastward land to this of Lyguany is Lezama, a narrow tract of plantable land between the sea and the mountains, containing some small savanas, but no habitation, nor any cattle but wild; and is about two leagues in length. Then is the hato Ayala full of tame cattle, and hath much commodity of planting or erecting of sugar engines of water, by reason of two convenient rivers, which it hath running through it fit for that purpose, but is dangerously open to the incursion of pirates, who there have too much commodity of landing in two small coves or bights of the land, the one of which is called Los Anaones towards the west of this hato, and to the east la Cruz del Padre. Next is the hato of Morante, which is 8 leagues distant from Caguaya, which is all a dangerous coast, and no good anchoring but at the house it self which belongs to the hato, and is called Morante. This Morante is a large and plentiful hato, being four leagues in length, consisting of many small savanas, and wild cattle and hogs in very great plenty, and ends at the || mine, which is at the cape or point of Morante it self, by which towards the north is the port Anton.

* Near to this port in a mountain called Mefcher Cornoufwe, we are informed by a Portuguese, is a very rich mine, and they were just beginning to dig it.

† Two leagues from Panda Botellio is the mountain of Manati, by which to pass towards the western parts of this island, is but one stony narrow way about eight foot in breadth, and no other way to the west of the island.

|| No mine, but only so called.

Several sorts of wood in this country :

1. Grandillio, of a reddish black colour, hard and heavy as ebony, used much in these parts for bed-steads. A. D. 1655.
2. Cedar, the best in all the Indies, useful for all purposes, as oak in England.
3. Cawobena, a tree of six fathom about, a fine red, excellent good for beds, tables, or buildings.
4. Kittawo, of a yellow colour, of a fathom about, excellent for dying, called in English yellow fustick.
5. Brasil and Brasilletto, excellent for dyeing, sold in these parts at one pound seventeen and sixpence per hundred.
6. Guaiacum, good for bed-steads, bowls, and chairs, and physical uses, 3 foot over, the bark sold at Carthagene for 2 shillings per pound.

The country affords several fruits :

1. Pepper, smelling like cloves, the north side of the island full of it wild, good for chocolatto, sold here at sixpence per pound ; the leaf distilled makes excellent good water, much esteemed of by the Spaniards at Carthagene.
2. Pine, the best to my palate of any fruit that ever I eat ; in season almost all the year long, sold at six pence per piece.
3. Nispero, esteemed the best fruit in the Indies by the Spaniards ; in season in July and August.
4. Mamefuppote, tastes like marmalade ; in season part of June, July and August.
5. Avocatas, a wholesome pleasant fruit ; in season in August, sold for 3 d. per piece.
6. Cacao, in great plenty, of which they make chocolate ; sold ordinarily for three shillings per bushel.
7. Cattao, a very sweet luscious fruit, green of colour, and much like a mulberry in shape and bigness.
8. Limes, limons, oranges, guavers, bonanas, plantaines, papaas, melons of all sorts, and very good cucumbers, gourds, &c. and the largest potatoes my eyes ever beheld.
9. Tobacco, which at Carthagene bears the best rate there.
10. Indico.

The protector to general Blake.

SIR,

I HAVE received yours of the 25th of march, which gives an account of the late transactions betwene yourselfe and the governors of Tunis concerninge the losses, which the English have sustained by the piracies of that place, and the successe it hath pleased God to give in the attempt you made upon their shippinge, after their positive refusall to give you satisfaction upon your just demands. And as we have great cause to acknowledge the good hand of God towards us in this action, who in all the circumstances thereof (as they have beene represented by you) was pleased to appeare very signally with you ; soe I thinke myself obliged to take notice of your courage and good conduct therein, and doe esteem, that you have done therein a very considerable service to this commonwealth. I hope you have received the former dispatches, which were sent unto you by the way of Legorne, for your comeinge into Cadiz bay with the fleet, as also those which were sent by a ketch immediately from hence ; whereby you had also notice of 3 months provisions then preparing to be sent, and have since been sent away under the convoy of the frigotts, the Centurion and Dragon, and hope they are safely arrived with you, they sayling from hence about the 28th of Aprill. With this comes further instructions concerninge your disposinge of the fleet for the future, whereunto wee doe referre you. Besides which wee haveinge taken into consideration the present designe wee have in the West Indies, have judged it necessary, that not only the kinge of Spayne's fleets comeinge from thence be intercepted (which as well your former instructions, as those now sent unto you authorize and require you to doe) but that we endeavour alsoe as much as in us lyes to hinder him from sending any reliefe or assistance thither. You are therefore dureinge your abode with the fleet in those seas, to informe yourselfe by the best meanes you can concerninge the goeing of the kinge of Spaine's fleet for the West Indies ; and shall accordinge to such information as you can gaine, use your best endeavours to intercept at sea, and fight with and take them, or otherwise to fire and sinke them ; as also any other of his ships, which

In the possession of Joseph Jekyll, Esq.

A. D. 1655. which you shall understand to be bound for the West Indies with provisions of warr or men for the aide and assistance of his subjects there, carrying yourself towards other of his ships and people as you are directed by your generall instructions.

June 13, 1655.

Capt. J. Jennings to secretary Thurloe.

June 13, 1655.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 299.

BEING on board the Elizabeth frigott with mr. John Ashburnham, as his conduct, he finding me very civill to him, would often enter into discourse with me; but most of his discourse tended to the change of the government, saying that himselfe with other wise men had cast about all the wayes they could, and could not find, that the king of Scotts right in England could be kept from him; things being before the last rising at soe good a state, that had they sate still one yeare or twoe, he had undoubtedly come to the crowne, blameing those very much, that had a hand in that buisnesse, for as much as it had altered the state of affaires somewhat. Then I returned answer, that seeing soe many thousands had engaged warre against his father and himselfe, he must resolve to cutt a passage through all their lives, before he could attaine to it. To that he replied, that it would be the king's wisdom, after an act of oblivion past, to make use of this very army, both officers and soldiers, and to continue them in pay; and that he should noe sooner endeavour to putt a slight upon any part of them, by bringing in any of his old party, but it would be the ready way to ruine himselfe and his interest. To which I answered againe, that myselfe with others being soe sensible of what could happen after one yeare at the most, there would not be a person left in the army, that had beene any way reall to the present government. To which he replied againe, *Ab! poor captain, if that day were come, I would provide for thee.* I enquireing what meanes the king of Scotts had to live upon, he tould me, that he had something of that which was allowed his mother by the French king, and some small matter out of England, which doth not amount to above a thousand pounds a yeare, which he said was allowed him by some private friends here. He would often speake of the duke of Yorke as to his being lieutenant generall of all the French forces, and the esteeme he had amongst the French, doubting not but within a few yeares he would be the greatest capitaine in Europe. This is all I have to acquaint your honour with at present, but that I am

Your humble servant,

JOHN JENNINGS.

An intercepted letter of James Darcy, to D. D. John Smith at Dunkirk.

SIR,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 392.

IHAVE written with the last post to my cosen Walter Drake according to my promise and his desire, concerning that, which he commanded me to comunicat to sir Luke Fitzgerald for the consolation of his good mother, which he soe much wisht, as he offers at all tymes his promptnes in transferring what he wil send hence to hir, as himselfe confirmed in my letter to him. And if it by tymely, I belive it will by sent with his one cosen colonel Fiz-Williams, which goes for Ireland within this 13 dayes, with whome alsoe I intend to goe as a servant, and he a courtier to my lorde Harye Crumwel, lord listenant of Ireland, whose baggage are already gon, which his lordship felowes, and wee that are of his traine a day or two after. Soe as I hope to have a safe voyage as hitherto I have had, more by divine then human assistance. My cosen Fiz-Williams is the only man of our nation heere in request; he has got a grant of his estate totallie, and I hope will obtaine it for others. He promiseth my pass and repass, as also licence to goe for all parts of Ireland for his affaires, of which I hope to make use, though our contrie by more miserable then ever wee beleved there. Sir Luke's ladie writes from Rathfarn, (for which shee payes after the rate of 9s. an aker,) that all the gentry is transplanted and fained to live under the air or in such barackes, as you had at Balinkil in the sige tyme. Som ould women and ladyes are permitted to stay by paying much. Wee heere of noe other persecution: the farmers are as yeat quiet. It's thought this cuntry will not by better yd nez misse lrm, no loz, for the nobilitie are daylie aresting and a sending to the Barbados.

I

All

All estated men are suspitious, and therefore comprehended as plotters against the present government and tranquillitie of the kingdom, therefore unworthy to injoy their estates. As yeat noe professor of our religion is found in any conspiracie, as I hope wil not. To morrow wee fast and praye for our brothers kilt in Savoye, which is foe taken to hart by my lord protector, as he ordayned fasting, prayers, and great sums of monys to be collected, I believe not to be given for their souls deying, as they did, but to relive the rest that are alive. The France ambafador desired his highnes to publis the storie of their deaths, as it hapned, but wou'd not bycause they deserved a wours, for seeing manie of them daylie converted by the priests and friers, that lived to that purpose amongst them, their ministers desired som to cutt them off, which was performed, for in one night 7 of them were killed; on which the duke sent his commissions to examin, but they would receive them not, naie deadly wounded one; on which he sent his armie, and desired the France and Iris to heale him, they being 7 or 8000 in armes against him; so they fought, but had the wours, and on **** blood there was not much mercie nor complements thy say betwixt them and the Iris. My lord of Leada gave his adieu yesterday to my lord protector, which sent his one coach of six white horses, I beleve neither had better horses or coach. Certaine it's, as many tould my, that none of the English kings had ever any such; and with it ten more of six horses with many cavaliers; foe was Leda conducted and reconducted, but what he did is not knowne.

There is a new scale a making, and all heereafter is to pass in my lord protector's only name. Fleetwood is to com from Irland to be high treasurer of England. All supream offices are graunted to men of more trust, and to all an oath of fidelitie to be prescribed; the effects of which you shall heereafter heere. I pray putt Mr. Jhon Eurad in meind of bringing the coppie of my pattent, and leave the originall on the landlord that I had there's hands, as I desired himsealfe; and if hee coms not soone, let him by sure to keep it, or leave it heere with Mr. Larenc Tankard; let him alsoe bring the payre of coats, which his counciwhoman that was there, forgot to send with me. I salute most kindly cosen Drack with his bedfellow, and kifs your hands, comending him alwayes to your prayers, whose is, and alwayes rests,

London the 13th of June according
to Inglis martyrologium, [1655.]

Your most faithfull servant,

JAMES DARCY.

I pray send the inclosed with the post.

Post. I thought to send this with my lord of Leda, fench whose departure I am preparing for myne one, which will by the next saturday.

The slaughter of Savoy protestants has much inraged those against us, and especiallie against all chatholickes generallie. For the reliefe of those that escaped martyrdom all England doth contribute with such devotion, as I dare say, there are less then halfe a million gott in this very citty; for som give 100, som 200, som 20, som 40 pounds, and such is my lord protector's case, that all those that contribute, must by lifted foe as none dare refuse the clarke, which coms to every man's house. This will by an example for all to heale us, &c. Thus with my service I rest yours, as above there was one Mr. Spencer, alias Spallan, which was vice generall in Ireland, comprehended in the contrie 4 dayes past as a priest. Its thought he will be sent to the Barbados at heast.

At the council at Whitehall.

Wednesday, June 13, 1655.

Ordered,

THAT it be offered to his highness as the advice of the council, that his highness Vol. xxvii. would be pleased to make justice Cooke, one of the justices of the court of upper bench P. 317. in Ireland; justice Lowther, chief justice of the court of common pleas there; justice Donilan, one of the justices of the common pleas there.

The council doth approve, that Miles Corbet, esq; be chief baron of the court of exchequer in Ireland.

That it be offered to his highness as the advice of the council, that his highness would please to make Edward Carey, esq; one of the barons of the exchequer in Ireland.

That the council doth approve, that the two lord chief justices and the chief baron do manage the business of the court of chancery in Ireland until further order.

The lord Lambert reports additional instructions to be given to the lord deputy and council of Ireland, being six in number, which were twice read, and agreed to be offered unto his highness as the advice of the council.

Mr. Arthur Trevor to secretary Thurloe.

14 Junii, 55.

NOBLE SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvii.
P. 341.

I AM forry I was not able to doe yow the service (I wisht and doe true owe your singu-
lar favors to mee) in the affayres of Ireland; but now I hope to suply my owne disabi-
lity by acquaintinge yow, that the earle of Totnes his books are now come after the
death of fir Thomas Stafford, into the hands of Cornelius Bee at the King's Armes in
Ducke-lane, and amongst them 40 or 50 volumes of the transfections of Ireland in the
whole setlement thereof after the rebellion in the queene's tyme, and the whole country
map't, and their townes and countyes excellently devided and sett out. I find they are
originalls collected by the earle, when he was deputy by the name of fir George Carew,
and only fitt for a publike hand. I am become like an old gamster in a boulling alley,
that ends his tyme in giving the grownd to others, which I beseech yow please to
accept of one infinitely obliged to your goodnesse, and who will for ever acknowledge hym-
selfe most faythfully, fir,

Your most obedient and most humble servant,

SIR,

ART. TREVOR.

I have the 12th report of fir Edward Cook, consisting chiefly of cases of state, and
never printed. If yow have it not, and will please to have it copied, I will send it
yow. I take it to be the originall.

These bookes came into Bee yesterday, being sold by my lady Killigrew. Some care
would be taken before the notice of them come abroad.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxvii.
P. 353.

ASoon as I heard of the exploit in Savoy against the poore protestants, I made som
complaint of it to a correspondent of myn at Rom, as if it had bin don by som
command or connyvancy at lest of the pope; but he protests the contrary, and that the
fault proceeded from themselves. How true it is, I cannot yet learn. My last letters from
Naples tel me the 6 horses and mares wer al laden aboard the Succes, captain Smith,
who was to depart thence the 14th of this month directly for London. The captain has
don il to tak in marchants goods ther, by which meanes he is not able to tak in more
then two monthes provision for the horses; in which tym I much dout this former seson
he wil not get hom; and in Spayn he wil hav a bad recruit of hey and barley, for ther
tis dear and scarfe; and then we do not know upon what terms we stand with that na-
tion, in regard of generall Pen's fleet invading them (as 'tis here believed) in the West
Indyes. Discourfing latly with some Itallians, who had understood the Spanish extraordinary
ambassador in England had but cold entertainment in relation to his master's interest, and
that his hyhnes the protector was lykly to clofe with France, did not stick to say, that the
Spanyard would fynd som pryvat revenge, instancing the bisnes of Harry the fourth
of France, considering theyr way (both Spanyard and Itallian) is altogether Jesuitical and
Machiavillian. I thoht good (althoh at so greate a distance) to let you know of
thes words, how slyght soever they may seem to be, not douting but that greate hand of
providence wil stil preserve his hyhnes for the good of his piple.

In few dayes is expected the fleet from Tollon with six thousand foldiors, which they
ar to land in Porto Spetie in the Genowes state, within 14 legues of this place, whence
they ar to march into Modena to serv that prince against the Spanyard or the state of
Millan. A neece of cardinal Massarin coms along with this fleet to be marryed to the
duke of Modena's son and heir. They ar to pas som litle way throh the greate duk's
state, who has sent down and made greate preparations to entertain them. Cardinal An-
tonio Barbarini, who has bin so latly in France, and very gracious in that court, was de-
synd back again thether by the pope to treat on som great affaires; but Massarin has for-
bid his coming thether, fearing, as is supposed, that he might become a sharer with him
in that government. Here is no other newes of generall Blak's fleet, but that he is gon
towards Cales, to fynd his vitellers. We hear not of any revenge the Turk has taken on
our nation trading in his dominions, for burning theyr ships at Tunis, althoh twas much
feared. When any good newes arrives from generall Pen's fleet, pray impart it to,

Leghorn, June 25,
1655. [N. S.]

Right honourable,

your most humble and faithful servant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

De

De Witt to Nieuport, *the Dutch ambassador in England.*

Amsterdam, June 25, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

SOME lords of the provinces, and especially of Zealand and Friesland, although in my mind it became the last least, were scrupulous, and loth, that this state should undertake any thing, whereby to engage with England and Denmark in a nearer union and treaty; whereunto they declared they had no order; and therefore durst not enlarge without the consent of their principals. There are great divisions at present in Zealand; from whence I perceive a new storm to arise.

I have heard nothing further of the intentions of the Swede since my last.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvii.
P. 369.

Chanut, *the French ambassador in Holland, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England,*

Hague, June 25, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

I Give you many thanks for the pass you sent me for our small vessel. I will take the like from the ambassador of Spain, to the end it may pass with safety. In my opinion there being once an end of all pretence to delay you any longer, they will then resolve to sign your treaty, which we hope to hear by the next post. It is impossible it can be deferred much longer, unless it be, that the protector will give some new form to the government, and alter the title thereof; and that he will not sign, till such an alteration be made. The business of Savoy hath made such an impression against us, that notwithstanding the apparent truth, it is not able to break forth, to pacify the minds of the people. If some other accident happens, it will turn their fancies another way. They are very much troubled here at the conquests, which the king of Sweden is preparing to make in Prussia; for if he get to be master of the ports of that province, he will give the law to the trade of the Baltick sea, to the great prejudice of these provinces. I am told of a certain, that my lord Nieuport is ordered to inform the lord protector of the consequence of their design, to the end he may resolve to assist the Polanders or the city of Dantzick, if need be; and in case the lord protector do incline to do it, these provinces will join with him, to hinder the progress of the Swedish arms. The letter of the marquis d'Avaugour will let you see the state of the court of Stockholm, ready to embark. The glory of great Gustavus is a very great spur to this young prince. Certain it is, that this state is in a dangerous condition: besides foreign wars, it hath many divisions within it self.

The treaty with the elector of Brandenburg is at a stand; no likelihood of having it accomplished. They are sending more troops towards the frontiers; they are very jealous of the Swedes.

Vol. xxvii.
P. 365.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

June 24, 1655. [N. S.]

June 20.

Formerly there hath been often spoken of the equipment towards the Mediterranean Sea, and especially what was there to be done with or against those of Sallé. About this business and the consequences thereof, here came hither monsieur de Wildt, secretary and chief director of the college of the admiralty of Amsterdam, to frame an instruction and design of the fleet to the west; but under this pretence there will be likewise spoken of the equipment to the East, how far it is advanced, what ships are gone, what ready, and what unready; but all this hath not nor will have any perfection, before something hath been treated and concluded with England and Denmark, who both have ships, for the elector of Brandenburg hath not so much as a shallop; and that is one of the reasons, why they do very quietly decline the treaty with Brandenburg, though outwardly they do seem to continue the business. But in effect the lord Wyman doth begin to perceive their cold disposition to it; and there being put in the *instrumentum fœderis* the clause, that this state will reserve the treaty of Xanten in its force, as also the act of security, that passed upon it, the said lord Wyman, instead of demanding new particular conferences,

Vol. xxvii.
P. 243.

A. D. 1655. conferences, hath demanded publick audience, and in that (as I hear) doth intend to thunder against the said treaty and act of security; and having said, that he will rather burst than admit of such an article or clause, it is to be believed, that this present treaty will not take effect. And more and more I perceive, that the only private design of prince Maurice was to revive and finish this treaty; and to this end and effect he hath been labouring with the city of Amsterdam, (for from thence this treaty had its first rise at present,) as the great resort and first motion of Holland, and the invitation to the Christning, and all these fine things, have been only artifices to advance the business, and they might easily cry up the design of the Swedes against Prussia. But the design of Brandenburg is no other than the conquest of Juliers and Bergues, which Holland smelling caused to be inserted in the said instrument a limitation to the territories which the elector doth possess at present; whereas the lord Wymans doth desire, that the elector be maintained in his rights to Juliers and Bergues, as well as to Cleves, Marck, &c. Likewise Holland hath caused to be inserted, *therein to be comprehended or taken the protector*. All these are such things, which the elector is very averse unto, and hath very much laboured to have this omitted. But either I am deceived very much, or Holland (which hath Zealand, yea Utrecht, yea likewise others on their side) will not let go, and by this means I see no other, but that this treaty is quite off for this time.

June 21.

The commissioners having been at Groningen are come back, and are to make report to morrow. From the one party are come the lord Gruys, Sickinga, and Dois, who will urge, that a certain project of rule or government may be confirmed by the states general, *ex auctoritate*. On the behalf of the contrary party is come one called Rensen, who hath demanded audience, and will make a speech against it. I perceive, that neither the one nor the other is pleasing to prince William, and the affairs in the province of Groningen are still full of thorns.

The Rhynegrave perceiving, that they drew many companies out of Maestricht, did represent this morning the danger thereof, and that he hath so many enemies within, namely all the citizens being papists, and hath desired, that he might be rather reinforced than weakened in his garrison. But they did persist in the resolution already taken. The project of the education of the young prince doth come from Zealand, and is only communicated in particular, it not being publicly proposed, and those of Holland and the like laugh at it.

Of the treaty with Brandenburg there was nothing spoken to day.

They write to the provinces, to the end they would consent for a collection for the Vaudois. Holland is resolved for the collection, but will not do any thing, unless the other provinces do the same likewise.

June 22.

Those of Weefel have writ a second letter, making great complaints, how that the council of the elector hath again imposed a contribution upon the states of Cleve, and especially upon their city, being a notorious breach of their privileges; for the maintenance whereof this state is obliged by the treaty of Xanten and the act of security past upon it the 13th of December 1614. Whereupon it is resolved, that a conference shall be held about it to morrow by commissioners; and that the lord Copes, resident for his highness the elector of Brandenburg, shall be admitted into the conference, to propose unto him this complaint, and to declare, that this state is bound to maintain its privileges, and afterwards to make report thereof.

The lord Wickell hath made report, to have put into the hands of the lord Wyman, plenipotentiary of the elector of Brandenburg, the instrument of the alliance, which he the said Wyman doth propose, and is making an instrument against it. The greatest opposition is against the intromission of the lord protector, article 18, saying, that his master the elector doth abhor him. Besides they differ about the insertion of the treaty of Xanten, and particularly that the same should be inserted after the 13th article. But he doth endeavour to propose expedients to leave out the name of protector, or to make him propose the king of Denmark. Item he is labouring for an expedient against the security; for the said elector hath a great mind to conclude that treaty. Item they do differ about the smallness of the assistance. The lord Huygens hath made report concerning the payment of the officers that are come from Brazil. The secretary de Wildt is returned from Amsterdam.

They have agreed upon an instruction for Ruyter to go for Sallé, but he will not go yet so soon, but they will cause to stay the five or six ships designed to go with him to the Mediterranean, until such time as they shall discover the Swedish designs; and to that effect six ships shall likewise go under Tromp to the coasts of the east.

June 23.

The monies designed to buy new ships of war do come in so slowly, that the college of the admiralty of Amsterdam was resolved, and had signified to the states general, that they would sell three ships, and employ the proceed thereof to the finishing of the rest; but the states general did forbid it, and did write thereupon to those provinces, which are behind hand in their shares, to furnish the same with all speed. A. D. 1655.

The droffard Ittersum had made new complaint of the abuses, as plundering, stealing, and the like, which the Spaniards and the Lorrainers committed in the country of Outremeuse. This is referred to the council of state to dispose of it. Those of Holland have declared not to consent in the conclusion.

The droffard of Valkenburg hath writ about the placarts, which Spain hath fixed and put forth to the prejudice of the protestants. They have returned him an answer to pull down all such placarts.

This morning there was yet no report made in the business of the Omeland, by reason of the several letters that came from France, England, and Sweden, which are read. The chiefeft is that from Sweden they should write, that the design would be upon the Pillauw.

Upon the letter and complaint of Weefell is heard the resident Copes, who has said, that the lord Wyman was a privy counsellor of the prince Elector, and could answer better. To morrow the retroacts are to be seen.

There being at Maeftricht some children exposed in a place, where those of St. Servaas pretend jurisdiction, the magistrate desired, that the canons would keep those children, which they refused, and upon this are come letters and complaints.

June 24.

This morning there was report made of the negotiation of the commissioners, who have been at Groningen, whereof the chiefeft is the project of the government, to which the Omelands are to govern themselves henceforward.

The lords Gruys, Sickinga, and Duys, commissioners for the strongest party, are here to urge, that this government may be confirmed by the states general. But the lord Renfen commissioner for the weakest side doth oppose it. And the states general have not yet resolved any thing about it, but have taken it *ad deliberandum*. They have also proposed a project, according to which the officers that are come from Brazil should be paid, but not yet agreed upon; neither is the resolution yet agreed upon to solicit the lord protector to a new alliance with Denmark and this state against the designs in Prussia. However it is likely, that to morrow they will write to the lord Nieuport about it. Of the affairs of Brandenburg and Cleve there was nothing mentioned this morning.

June 25.

This morning the affairs of the Omelanders were again had in discourse. The one party doth urge and press very much for the resolution and establishment of a certain projected government; but the other party saith, that would be a means to put all the authority into the hands of a stadtholder; and desireth, that to morrow both parties may be once more heard in full assembly. And to the end to satisfy both parties, they have thought fit to appoint that time, and to hear once more the business in full assembly, and that to morrow. That party, which doth believe themselves to be the strongest in the Omelanders, doth threaten, in case they be not dispatcht, according to desire, that they will return; and being clearly the strongest, they will help themselves, that is, by a strong hand.

In Zealand the party of the prince hath got much advantage. At Middleburgh there was a minister called Van Toom (called in common Broer Cornelis, being like that old Broer Cornelis in his person and manner of preaching) who did preach, that the peace made with England was unjust and abominable, praying to God, that the mischief may fall upon the authors thereof, and not upon the commonality.

In the business of Weefell, the treaty of Xanten, whereof several retroacts have been read and considered, there is yet nothing resolved on; but it was deferred till to morrow, when they will resolve upon them.

As for the soliciting of the protector to draw him into a new alliance with Denmark and this state, there is not yet any thing concluded; and it doth seem, they do meet with scruples more and more.

The baron Sparr demanded this morning recredentials, and will have them; so that he will go hence without having any thing more to say or to do here. I remain

Your most humble servant.

Sir William Davenant to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvii.
P. 345.

I Humbly desire to make a proposition to you, which will infer my going into France; and consequently give occasion to dedicate my service to you during my short abode there. This doth continue that request, which I made to you not long since, by this way of addresse, to receive an appointment, when you have leisure to heare,

June 15, 1655.

Sir, your most humble

and most faythful servant,

WILLIAM DAVENANT.

Mr. Wilkie to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxvii.
P. 349.

IT was his highnes pleasure the first of this instant to send an order to lieutenant colonel Worlie to committ me, which he did, and ever since am under restraint. My spirit is much afflicted, that my wayes and intentions should be so much misinterpreted, as to deserve question. Hearing his highnes had no spare tyme for hearing me all this tyme by past, I have therfor patiently forborne pressing of it. Sir, I have now maid bold, humblie to request your honor to move his highnes and his counsell to give me a hearing, both in regaird of my publike concernments for those poore distressed people of Glasgow, and allso of my owne private occasions hear at law, which in this tearme is to be hard, and will prove my ruine, if I have not libertie to follow it.

Sir, Let me humblie entreate your honor, if his highnes be not at leisure to examine me, that I may have the priviledge (upon sufficient beale to appeare whensoever I shall be called) to goe abroade, and follow my busines, the tearme being already begun; and for so doing I shall eaver approve myselfe

Whayte Hart at Chearing Crosse,
June 15, 1655.

Your honor's most humbell servant,

J. WILKIE.

Romer, the Dutch resident at Hamburgh, to the states general.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Vol. xxvii.
P. 391.

MY lords, since my last of the 2^d instant the deputies of this city are come home again from Rendelborg the night before last: they are not to make their report in the full senate before next monday. According to what I understand, nothing of any consequence has happened in the case, something from the one and the other sides occurring, which caused the suspension of this affair to another time.

The Swedish troops in the Dutchy of Bremen are broke up, and arrived the day before yesterday near Boxtefoede, two miles from here on the other side of the Elbe, where I saw them *incognito*, and heard the orders read, how they should behave themselves in their march, with good order and discipline, that they should wrong no body, &c. They are to cross the Elbe in three severall places, at Atterenberg, Ruyseborg, and Domitz: they consist of four regiments of foot and three in horse, making out about seven thousand men: there are many fine troops among them, and to prevent their deserting, they were lodged that night in the church at Boxtefoede. The duke of Luneburgh Zell has been in his own person at Narburgh, right over-against this city, where he has seen them pass through the said town and about the same, meeting and following them as far as Winsen, all in the district belonging to his serene highness. They say that at Stade, Boxtefoede, Feerden, and other places in the Dutchy of Bremen, but few troops are left; but as I hear, there are four new regiments (with whom they have capitulated already) ordered thither, to recruit and compleat themselves: some speak of still more regiments. The said marching troops had a great train with them, and above 400 artillery horses. The states of Pomerania have been persuaded by sweetning speeches to grant 1000 rixdollars for the said armament and march: what further will be done with them, some suspend their judgment yet for a while; but others are of opinion, that they will be encamped on the frontiers of Poland, in order to treat with them *sub chypeo*. The Polish embassador is arrived at Dantzick, from whence he is to go to Stetin or Sweden, according to the news he

he shall receive of the king's departure out of Sweden; and whereas the Swedish letters advise, that the king perhaps may not break up yet this 3 or 4 weeks, which makes some people believe, that for this time he will not set out at all from Sweden, the said ambassador, as they write from Dantzick, is to go by sea to Sweden. A. D. 1655.

The king of Denmark is safely arrived at Copenhagen, and is said to have given immediate orders for the fitting out of his fleet with all expedition. They have still under deliberation, some troops shall be raised, or whether the militia only as yet to be brought into the field. The assembly of the states at Copenhagen doth begin on the 11th instant the proposition, made by the Swedes to the said crown, and according to the report, are said to raise thence some pensive and troublesome thoughts.

At Gottorp is arrived the Landgrave of Darmstat, the son-in-law of the duke of Holstein, with his consort, and a prince of Anhalt: they are very much invited by the queen of Sweden to take a trip thither, and to pay her a visit: they intend, as it is said, to go thither or to send a compliment.

The dyet of Poland doth still continue. They write variously from thence, so that nothing certain as yet can be told of the event of the same. Prince James Radzivill, high general of Lithuania, has made his report in the full assembly of what has happened in Lithuania, with many circumstances and complaints, that they had left him without help. And afterwards he presented to the king 60 colours and 52 prisoners, among whom were three Russia waywods, which he since had taken from the enemy by his small forces, and after some resistance; whereupon he was publickly thanked in the name of the king by the other Lithuanian general, and in the name of the senate by the archbishop of Gnesna, and in the name of the nobility by the deputy marshal; but he received all very coolly, and without change of temper, which vexed the king very much. The Turk offers his assistance against the Cossacks. The Tartarian deputies demand troops and money at least four German regiments, and the imperial minister insists upon the restitution of the Sipser towns, or both principalities of Oppelen and Ratibor, and without any recompensation, since the income thereof exceeds by far the sums borrowed upon them. It is said also, that his imperial majesty, as soon as the coronation of the empress at Presburgh is over, will come personally to Dresden. The emperors levies are said to be for 50,000 men.

Wherewith, &c.

Hamburg, June 26th,
1655.

High and mighty lords, &c.

(Sign'd)

W. ROMER.

Heinsius, the Dutch resident in Sweden, to the states general.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

MY lords, since my last of the 2^o instant, there is arrived here by sea out of Poland an envoy, sent hither by the states of that kingdom three days ago: he had his audience of the lord chancellor; his propositions chiefly consist in acquainting them, that an embassy is coming hither, to be here at court within a few days, to make a beginning of the negotiations touching the differences, which have happened on both sides. However it is not expected, that to stay for the same, the king will be diverted from his intended voyage, the more, because they think that the said negotiations for the present time can be carried on with more convenience in Pomerania or Prussia, than in this kingdom. The day before yesterday the Tartarian deputies took their leave at court. On the same day set out also from hence mr. Christian Bonde, to proceed in his embassy to England, but as yet will hardly be able to get at sea, by reason of the contrary winds.

The forementioned embassy to Russia goes on likewise within a few days. Yesterday about noon came an order and command from court, that all the men of war, which hitherto have lain near the town, should fall down further towards the sea, and there wait for what they still wanted, in case they are not yet entirely provided with all necessities. This fleet is to consist in 35 or 36 men of war, besides some small craft. His majesty's departure is very much delay'd by the long continuance of the diet; and where-as there is no great likelihood to come for this time to a firm conclusion of all propositions, some affairs may very probably be put off and delay'd till the next diet; the more since the best part of the summer is lost fruitless to his majesty, and the quartering of the troops

A. D. 1655. in Pomerania, begins to be troublefom to the inhabitants; therefore, on his majesty's side, every thing is ready for the conclusion of the diet, so that the same is expected every day.

Wherewith, &c.

Stockholm, June $\frac{26}{18}$, 1655.

high and mighty lords, &c.

(Sign'd)

N. HEINSIUS.

A letter of intelligence.

Brussels, June 26, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxvii.
P. 399.

THE lord of Zuylichem, counsellor and commissioner of the prince of Orange, having been here this three months to solicit the payment of what the king of Spain owes him, by virtue of the treaty of Munster, doth go from hence to morrow, carrying away as yet nothing but words, although written ones. In effect he did rather the affairs of the princess dowager of Orange, who having by gift the baronies and villages of Turnhout, hath run great hazard to see those villages ruined by the soldiers of the king; but at the recommendation of don Estaven de Gamarra, they were spared; and this princess will esteem this small benefit done to her more than if the king had paid a great matter to her little nephew or pupil.

A letter of intelligence.

Brussels, June 26, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
P. 387.

YOURS by the last I received, importing but little of news. It seems the marquis de Leda's negotiation is so secret, that few can penetrate it; but here is a report, he will soon return. We are pleased the French in Savoy gave occasion to retard your peace with France. The protestant rubric makes much of that ugly business; but none so much as the protector; for which he is to be commended highly, as he is; for in truth it was a most cruel, horrid, and inhuman action; and certainly God will revenge it.

I did not write to you last week, because I had nothing for you from Vienna or Cologne; and here was nothing worthy. Landrecy is besieged by the French, being strong. Our army is near them, but nothing yet done. Some say, ours will go and besiege some other place; but I see no great appearance of it. Landrecy is well defended. Count Garzias, a Spaniard and general of the foot here, was left to seek in the Abbey Marchieue; and after carried to Doway, where he died. If Fuenfeldagna were so, it would better please the army and country.

The arch-duke caused a town called Conde to be re-fortified now. The duke of Lorraine this same day parts from hence towards the army. 4000 men are come to him from Germany for the new levies.

E're yesterday came hither in great haste mr. Talbot from Cologne. I saw him. He staid not above half an hour in this city. He told me, he would soon return; and in a word, that R. C. had a great design in hand, which is all that I could get from him.

It is written from Breda hither, that the Swedes intend war against Holland, and gave orders to some of their forces to march that way; but of this we have no great assurance. Some talk still of a cessation betwixt Spain and France; but I see no great grounds for it. So I leave it, and conclude,

Sir, yours, &c.

Major general Disbrowe to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

V. xxvii.
P. 377.

I Received yours, which was very pleaseinge to me. I have littell to acquaint you with, only that I am about my business, and have only as to the troops settled that in Wilts and Dorset, and one in Somerset, and these 3 here; and I hope there well officered.

For those in my list, I hope they will be in custody this night, except those in Gloucestershire, which I have given orders for also. A. D. 1655.

I did in my last to you desire to know, whether it was captain Crofts or captain Neash in Gloucestershire, that you had pitched on; which I pray let me know, because I would send for him to meet me with Wade the next week at Bristol, when I come backe from Cornwell.

Sir, I have acquainted my lord protector with the condition of the shreiffes regiment here of foot, and have inclosed also sent you a particular of their condition. The noyse I have about it, and my owne ingagement to the citty, contrey, and officers, doth exceedingly trouble me, and makes me weary of this place. Ther is due to them about 4600l. till this time, and they never had one peny of pay. I desire you to mind it, and gett somethinge done in it spedily. About 1300l. will satisfie the 6 companies, I thinke, that are sent home without one peny, but some littel, and that hath bine borrowed for them; and if two months pay could be payd for the present to the 4 companyes remaineing, it would somewhat stope the clamor that I am under. I pray fayle not to mind this effectually.

I desire you would also let me know what shal be done about the prissoners in the goales. There is also about 12 notable rogues at Plymouth that was taken at sea, which I faine would have sent with the rest.

I hope we shall have a very good militia in these countys under my care. I shall not trouble you further, only to assure you, that I am

Exon, June 16, 1655.

Your reall frind and servant,

JOHN DISBROWE.

I desire you would mind the buffines, for a justice of oyer for the forrest of Deane.

A letter of intelligence.

MONSIEUR OSIERS,

JE vous en supplie, donnez bon advis a son altesse en Angleterre de tenir firme en prison un homme, qui s'appelle Elizeus Shelly, qui demeure en Drury Lane aupres du Lyon rouge. C'est un fort mauvais , qui fault faire des merveilles. Il y a un homme envoie d'ici a luy depuis hier au soir. Je seray bien aise, que ceste lettre arrive a vos mains, lesquelles je baife, estant toujours,

Paris xxvii de Juin, de
nostre style, 1655.

Vostre tres humble &

tres obeissant serviteur,

*A monsieur monsieur Osiers, a sa chambre a la
rue royale a Westminster, ou en son absence a
monsieur Thurlow, secretaire principal a son
altesse Angleterre.*

J. C.

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.

Paris, June 27, 1655.

SIR,

YOU will see by the Gazette, how our troops have besieged Landrecy the 20 of this Vol. xxvii. next month, in hopes to render themselves masters of the same towards the middle of P. 415. although its garrison be of 3000 men. The enemies join together to hinder it; but the lines being ended ever since monday last, mareschal Turenne may easily oppose their designs, by reason that the king's army is very great and in good condition. The overseer of mr. le Prince's army hath been taken; his name is Guyonet, being counsellor in the parliament of Bordeaux. He is to be brought to the Bastille. I am also informed, that a great convoy entered yesterday morning from Guise into our camp. The court is still at la Fere, where the Dutch ambassador has had audience five days since about the business of Savoy, in which I can assure you, that we have had no hand here. The king's letter to my lord protector, as also his eminency's upon that subject, are satisfactory; his majesty having also writ into Savoy to obtain what his highness doth desire, notwithstanding the hindrance, which the common enemies study to bring forth to hinder the good success of our treaty with England. I send you here inclosed the copy of a letter written on this occasion by the king unto the duke of Lefdiguiers governor of Dauphiné.

VOL. III.

7 C

Another

Another letter to the said mr. Petit of the same date.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvii.
P. 416.

BESIDES the violences past at Metz against those of the religion, in consequence of the massacre at Piedmont, we are informed, that the Jesuits and other missionaries depending immediately on the pope exciting the disorder and hatred against them, command hath been given unto all those, who were not natives of Langres, to go from thence; and because that a poor artizan of the religion had not obeyed, so soon as was desired, their commands, he was thrust out by force, and his goods burnt before his house unto his very bible. That the monks of Amiens have set the magistrate at work to cashier the leases of houses, that no protestants could come to dwell there; and at Rochelle that they were ready to go to blows, by reason the protestants did not make bonfires before their doors for the pope's election.

The pope's nuncio hath agreed to the putting the affairs of the Jubilee off for 24 days, until the return of a post dispatched by his majesty unto the pope; and by reason they have been informed, that the pope hath given the pallium unto cardinal of Retz in quality of archbishop of Paris, the king hath caused reproaches to be made thereof unto that nuncio, who hath answered, that it could not be refused to his quality; and I hear, that his majesty hath written unto his ambassador at Rome to make instances, that the pope should name commissioners to make the said cardinal's process.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to his father.

MY LORD,

Vol. xlvii.
P. 419.

IHAVE now no other business or news to write to you of my negotiation, unless it be, that at present I demand either to have my treaty signed, or leave to be gone. My commissioners, who returned at the end of the last week, do declare, that the lord protector is inclined to the first, but in such terms as one may easily perceive, that they have still a mind to delay it. And in regard I have orders very precise to withdraw, if they continue to delay me, I cannot prevent any longer my taking of leave, although it doth seem to me very probable, that they will not let me go. Yet this government acting by some particular considerations, which cannot be easily looked into, I cannot warrant any thing; neither dare I go beyond my orders. And it may be, that these false reports and advice, which is given them here, that this pretended persecution of Savoy will arm all the protestants of France, and it may be, the desire, which the protector hath to gain credit amongst those of that profession, as well here as elsewhere, will induce him not to conclude any thing, till he shall see that fire quite out. And in regard, that I do not write to the court, you may let them know, that I will try what effect my demanding of audience to take my leave will work upon them; and that the marquis of Leda departed hence this morning with the same train, that conducted him in at his arrival. They still continue seizing the lords and gentlemen, that formerly served the king. Here is a gathering making, which will produce a very considerable sum for the rebels of Savoy, who pass here for persecuted people in hatred of their religion. I am not exempted, though I shall have suddenly as much need of charity as they, if the commissioners of the treasury will not do me speedy justice. I could wish, that my accounts were stated, and my appointments made me before I return, which will be now very suddenly, in regard I have been forced to demand leave to be gone.

June 28, 1655. [N. S.]

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
P. 427.

IHAVE bine thorough mercy very graciously preserved in this march. Wee have bine through a very goodly pleasant countrey, where thorough mercy there is great peace and quietnes; and where I am perswaded his highnes hath as many faithfull and affectionate servants as in any part belonging to his government. I doe not find dissatisfaction on any man's spirit to the present government, which makes mee perswaded there is much true heartednes to his highnes in those who serve him heere. If the Lord will please to incline English people to come and live here, I beleve they will find as much encouragement here, both as to the fruitfullnes and pleasantnes of this countrey, as they could expect from any place: though it be very waist at present, yet it is very wonderfull, considering

dering what sad devastations there have bine made, how much plentie here is. The A. D. 1655.
 greateſt want this nation hath, is a better people; eſe there would be but little difference
 betwixt it and England. I believe it would excede England in the fiſhing trade and
 traffique into foreigne parts. I wiſh hartily his highnes could ſpare colonel Clerke and
 lieutenant colonel Kelfey to be governor of Galloway and Corke. Two ſuch perſons in
 thoſe places might be of ſingular advantage to his highnes ſervice. Had wee two or
 three more precious choyce godly and ſuch able men, wee might imploy them to places
 of great advantage to the publike; but really I ſcarce dare write about ſuch a buſines,
 for I doe clearly find, that few or none are ſent hither, but ſuch as you cannot provide for
 in England; and indeed in things of this nature, I muſt crave pardon from his highnes,
 if I am unwilling to obey. Beſides it putts a diſcouragement upon many faithfull deſerving
 perſons here to ſee others leſs deſerving preferred. As for mr. Carey, I am very well ſatis-
 fied in his comeing hither; and if you thinke fitt, that ſuch young perſons ſhould be
 judges, wee have two or three heere, that I believe might likewise be as able to answer
 the dutie of that place; but I am very well ſatisfied in his comeing. I am in haſt, and
 remaine

Your affectionate freind and ſervant,

Athlone, June 18, 1655.

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

Mr. Nathaniel Brewſter to ſecretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

YOUR honor's very kinde aſſiſtance aſſoarded to me heretofore in my addreſſes to his Vol. xxvii.
 highneſſe doth encourage me once againe to make recourſe to you, humbly re- P. 431.
 queſting your honor to enquire of his highneſſe (after tender of my duty and ſervice)
 whether any ſuch recommendation be yet made on my behalfe to the deputy of Ireland,
 which his highneſſe intended; and that you would pleaſe to informe me, when I come,
 whether I muſt call for it before I goe, or whether it be ſent allready. Let it pleaſe
 you, ſir, to pardon this boldneſſe, for the ſuddenneſſe of my voyage and the importance of
 his highneſſe's letter in the preſent caſe hath enforced me to uſurpe ſoe much upon your
 love. I expect to be in London this weeke, and (as I finde things) to haſten after my lord
 Henry before he ſet ſayle, ſoe as the readyneſſe of my advance money and of that re-
 commendation will be an extraordinary furtherance, if I can be reſolved about them,
 by calling at your honor's houſe.

I have noe intelligence worth communicating to your honor, but that our troopes are
 in great forwardneſſe, and like to be ſuddenly in a poſture. The contributions for the
 proteſtants have been cheerfully mannaged in theſe parts. The lord bleſſe your honor;
 ſo prayeth, ſir,

Alby in Norfolk, June
 18, 1655.

Your moſt humble faithfull ſervant,

NATH. BREWSTER.

Mr. Garbert will be ſerviceable at your honor's directions in any thing of my buſineſſe,
 wherein to eaſe your honor, if need be.

Mr. R. Wagſtaffe to ſecretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I HAVE hear fett down the names of ſuch perſons, that are as to there continuance with Vol. xxviii.
 us in this county of dangerous conſequence, though they are very low and inconſi- P. 441.
 derable as to there eſtates, that there tongues are alwayes venting there villany, and that
 very impudently, as I am very credibly informed. I pray conſider of ſome way for its
 prevention, which I hope will be by ſending them a little further off. I have at preſent
 no more to trouble you with, but remayne

Bedford, June 18, 1655.

Sir, your faythfull and humble ſervant,

RICHARD WAGSTAFFE.

The perſons wee ſent up the laſt week, viz.

Mr. George Geary.

Mr. Parſons, a recusant and in arms againſt us.

Mr. Scott, a proctor in our commiſſary's courts.

Mr. Nayleyr, a ſurgeon to ſir Lewis Dives, who lives in Bedford, a moſt deſperate fellow.

An

An intercepted letter design'd for Paris.

June 18, 1655.

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
 Vol. xxvii.
 P. 195.

I COME just now from seeing the merchant, who is resolved to make use of you for the merchandizes, which he doth desire from Paris. I pray send him such as are good, and you may be assured he will not fail to requite your pains. In the mean time he made me judge of the provision, which he is to send you every month. I set it at 200 francs *per mensem*. I know very well it is too little; but I did on purpose set it for your own advantage. Besides you may assure yourself, that you will be very well paid for the merchandizes which you shall send, especially if they be such as will sell well. You may send him word, if you please, whether you will come to that rate, which I desire you to do; assuring you, that if your commodities be good, and they find you active, it will make very much for the sale of them. By the next you shall hear further from me.

[This letter was writ in French, and is from some correspondent.]

The superscription was to mr. Wricket at Paris.

Mr. J. Aldworth, consul at Marseilles, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxvii.
 P. 459.

MY last unto you was of the 22d currant, since which nothing hath been offered worth your notice; only that the 8 ships I formerly gave you notice was preparing att Naples to carry soldiers to Barcelona, 4 dayes past passed this coast in company of 14 gallyes; so that said place in all probability will have small cause to fear the French this sommer, unless should be overpowerd by land. My last advice from Genoa gives me notice, that about 20 dayes past general Blake with his fleete was mett going out of the Streights mouth, and making towards Cadiz. The admiral Vandoisme's fleet at Thollon cannot be ready under a month at least, for want of mony and mariners, and in all will not have above 20 ships bigg and small, and 8 gallyes. Two dayes past arrived heere 2 Genoa gallyes, that are come to fetch the cardinal Mazarin's niece, that is married to the duke of Modena in Italy. The ambassador Vandoisme in 3 dayes will be heere to give a visit to the cardinal's niece, in regard it is his son's Merckures wife's sister. Att his being heere, I shall againe presse him for the releasement of our English ships, which are yet detain'd, although I am little hopes to obtayne it, in regard his absolute answer was, hee would not release them, till hee had certaine advice the treaty was signed 'twixt the two states. The protestants in the province of Languadock are on their guard, and ready to assist those in Savoy, if need requires it. This being what the present affordeth, soe doe must humbly take leave, and remayne

Your honor's servant,

JO. ALDWORTH.

From Smyrna I have advice againe, that the nation are in greater feare of being troubled by the grand seignior, by reason of general Blake's proceedings att Tunis.

In Marseillia, June 29, 1655. [N. S.]

Copie d'une lettre de monsieur de St. André Montbrun, lieutenant general de l'armée du roy en Piedmont, écrite a monsieur d'Ize, pasteur a Grenoble, en date du 29 Juin, 1655. [N. S.]

Monsieur d'Ize,

Vol. xxvii.
 P. 453.

J'AY receu vostre lettre tres-obligeante, a laquelle je ne puis respondre, que par les tres humbles remerciements des sentiments, que vous tesmoignes d'avoir pour moy. Les miens seront toujours d'employer tout ce que j'auray de bien & de vie, quand il s'agira de l'interest de la religion. Je souhaitteray en pouvoir donner des preuves en cette rencontre. Le bruit estoit icy, qu'a mon arrivée on me parleroient de moyener cest accommodement, & a monsieur le marquis de Piennes. On n'en a parlé ny a l'un ny a l'autre, parce qu'ils traittent desja avec des mediateurs, qui leur sont a mon opinion plus agreables, qu'a ceux des Vallées. Madame S. A. R. & ses ministres ne m'en parlent point. Je n'ay pas voulu aussi leur en parler, & sur tout ne pouvant demeurer en ce pais que deux jours, a cause du depart de l'armée, qui va traverser le Milaneze. J'ay pourtant dit en plusieurs lieux, que cest affaire estoit de plus de consequence, qu'on ne pensoit; & que ces peuples ne seront pas abandonnés. Ils se moquent des efforts d'Angleterre, & n'apprehendent que

que les Suisses. Mais ils se flattent de l'opinion, que la republique des Suisses estant composée d'une & d'autre religion, les protestants ne peuvent declarer une guerre sans le consentement des catholiques, qui ne le donneront point en cette rencontre. Je n'ay pas manqué de leur représenter la puissance des protestants en ce pais là, au prix de celle des catholiques Romains; & que le zele de la religion fera passer par dessus les voyes ordinaires. De plus qu'il semble, que Dieu, qui tire du mal le bien, ait permis cette affaire, pour eveiller tous ceux, qui font profession de nostre religion, a faire une union pour leur conservation avec tous les protestants de l'Europe: que c'est un dessein du protecteur d'Angleterre: que le roy de Suede & les princes d'Allemand font armés, sans qu'on sache leur dessein: qu'on pourroit employer partie de ces forces pour venger cette action. Que les Suisses protestants donnerent le passage, apres quoy il ne se fera point de paix: que le duc de Savoye ne paye les frais de la guerre: & qu'ils se devroient souvenir, que Henry IV. le leur a fait payer, ayant donné les balliages des Bugoy, Veronnes, & Gex, pour les frais de la guerre, qu'il fit en Savoye. Monsieur le prince Thomas desaprouve l'action; & dit, qu'on la fait sans son conseil, & qu'on luy avoit demandé les regiments pour loger en ces quartiers là, & non pas pour faire la guerre. La proposition d'une treve, pour laisser faire la recolte, a esté faite à ceste cour, qui n'y veut point entendre. Ils veulent, que les biens acquis par ceux des vallées hors des anciennes limites soyent vendus, & qu'ils ne les puissent outre passer. Toutes les propositions, que j'ay veu faire, je les trouve assez desavantageux pour ces gens là; & il est a souhaiter, que messieurs les cantons protestants prennent leur cause en main; & ne se relaschent point, moyenant quoy ils auront contentement. C'est la seule chose, qu'on apprehende en cette cour. Je prie Dieu, que cest affaire se termine pour sa gloire, & pour le bien de ses eglises; & que je puisse rencontrer l'occasion de vous faire connoistre, que je suis veritablement,

Monsieur, vostre tres-humble

A Turin le 29 Juin,
1655. [N. S.]

& tres-affectionné serviteur,

St. André Montbrun.

A letter of intelligence.

Cologne, June 29, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

YOURS I received, as accustomed, barren of newes; but wee are not foe here; Vol. xxvii.
for if wee have not real newes, wee make them by R. C.'s authority. P. 538.

From hence you may understand, that this court does increase daily by the arrivall of divers. Wilmot is at length come hither a few dayes since. So is general Middleton, with some Scottish officers; soe that nowe this court is full of English, Scotts, and some fewe Irish forces. Their number encreaseth not. The prince's royal, they say, will come hether soone, but I have noe certaintie of it. They still boast here of greate designs yet on foot, which cannot fayle; but wee are never without them; alwayes doeing, and yet wee doe noethinge.

I writt to you before, that Fontanel, a French gentleman, was sent from cardinal Mazarin to R. C. who was with R. C. in treaty; but I cannot penetrate what it is about, but a marriage betwixt C. R. and Mazarin's neece.

The elector of this place gave 3000 dollars to R. C. beeing the greatest courtesie he did yett to him.

In festo sancti Anthonii de Padua, R. C. his brother Glocester, and all the cavaliers, were in compline with the minorites, heareinge musicke, &c.

One count Monte-Cuculi passed hether from Vienna in 8 dayes posteing, and followed the same course to the archduke Leopold.

It is nowe believed, the Swedes intende against Prussia and Dantzick. Some of the elector of Brandenburg's forces march, as tis sayd, to assist the king of Poland; but I believe it not, as shortlie you may heare.

The bishop of Munster and the citie are yett in dangerous disputes, and matters not ended, as was believed.

The duke of Newborg is well, and agreed with his states here to returne to his dukedome of Newborg, where he shall reside for 3 yeares, upon condition these states shall punctualie sende to him all his revenues; and the first yeare's revenue he is to receive in hande, to putt him in equipadg for his journey.

Several collonels were here rayseinge men for France, Spaine, and others; but there came commissioners from the emperor to rayse 50000, which caused all the other officers to be goeing away, their labours beeing in vaine. This is this week's collection from,

Sir, yours.

A paper

A paper of the states of Zealand.

A. D. 1655.
 Vol. xxvii.
 p. 211.

THE lords the states of Zealand, taking into their deliberation for the second time, the proposition of the lords of Overysfel, made lately in their noble mightinesses assembly; and taking a particular observation of their request, contained in five articles; and considering on one side, that the gentlemen of Deventer being the opposing and adverse party, have not been heard upon it; and on the other side observing and considering, that the province of Overysfel is miserably and grievously divided, and that by thus disagreeing from one another, an entire anarchy and abolition of government is observed there, good policy for the greatest part being dormant, the finances in confusion, and the militia keeping their garrisons there without laws and discipline; and that all this by continuance and delay of time must grow from worse to worse, and might at last prove very easily the total subversion of that good province: For this reason it is, that the said lords the states of Zealand, being moved with bowels of compassion at the deplorable state of their faithful allies, and consulting such means of remedy, which might not be prejudicial to the one or the other party in their assertions, after mature deliberation have thought good, that the rents and breaches of the said province must be healed, and the regency consolidated and united without any delay; and in order to obtain this salutary aim and purpose, their noble mightinesses judge it to be best (every thing for as yet remaining in the same condition it is now) that both parties in the character of states, and under a due act of security, should meet together at Deventer, or in any other neutral place in the same province within the term of one month at furthest, where at the same time shall appear a deputation of their high mightinesses, one out of each province, to endeavour, by all suitable means, to accommodate the depending differences, and to bring over the parties to a mutual good harmony and unity; and in case the same could not be brought about within a term of fourteen days or a month at furthest, they shall do all possible endeavours, that the differences may be compromised and left to the arbitration of their noble mightinesses, who in such a case shall be likewise obliged, within the term of two or at farthest four weeks, to bring in their final and peremptory award and decision, and after the same is published, to procure an amnesty of all reciprocal offences. And if against expectation it should happen, that the one or the other party should be averse to appear there, or make exceptions or præ-conditions, or appearing there should shew any unwillingness in the opinion of the lords commissaries, to contribute to an accommodation and composition of differences, or refuse to submit, the same shall be taken as an aversion and dissatisfaction to peace. And having made their report in the assembly of their high mightinesses, the said deputies shall declare, that the sovereignty of the province of Overysfel shall provisionally be represented by those members, that have the legal majority of votes on their side. Thus done in the assembly of the said lords the states in the court of Middleburg, June 29, 1655. [N. S.]

Underneath stood; by ordinance of the said states,

and was sign'd,

ADRIAN VETH.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, June 30, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

V. xxvii.
 P. 473.

SINCE my former, last saturday here was a council held touching the business of cardinal de Retz, where were the chancellor, mr. Gard de Sceaux, mr. Bignon advocate general, and mr. L'Abbe Ondedei. The first president was not there, though he was sent for. We hear all was about the courier sent by mr. de Lionne, who passed here to court last monday was sev'nnight, as I writ before, for the harsh words the pope has given to cardinal de Este and mr. de Lionne about the wars of duke de Modena, of which they spoke in that council; as also of cardinal de Retz's business concerning the Jubilee; but they resolved nothing yet, only to begin again that assembly, which will be this day or to morrow. Both the businesses are troublesome at these times, and especially that of cardinal de Retz, for fear the people should remove for having not the Jubilee in due time; of which more by the next, God willing.

The letters from la Fere of the 26th instant bring, that the day before prince Condé was at Fort-Somme with 13000 horse, and 8000 foot; upon which we, seeing him so near and considerable, we sent into Guise 1200 men, and 1600 into St. Quintin, to defend those places, in case of any accident. As besides that mr. Roncerolles lieutenant general came and posted himself on this side of the river Somme, to mark the situations of our

garrisons about the said rivers, the prince being in the other side. Those of Corbie were A. D. 1655. much afraid, but now we fear Montreuil more than any other place. However the grand convoy, that was near Guise, of which in my former, arrived at our camp before Landrecy without any resistance; and because all the horses and mules of the court were employed by the said convoy, they expect but their return to la Fere for to depart and come to Soissons, where yesterday the court was expected, they being not well provided for at la Fere, by reason of the courses of the army about the place. But be sure of it, if the prince had come to le Fere, he might have before this time both king, queen, and court together, and that in one day's time; for they had only four companies of the guard in all to oppose any enemy; and all here wonder much, the prince not come to la Fere, he knowing well how things were disposed there. But we do much admire at the council to hazard our king in that manner, at which many friends here are not well pleased. We have from Guise of the 27th instant, that the garrison of Landrecy sallied out 2000 of them with two pieces of artillery, their drums beating; and in that manner made bold upon a party of ours, where they killed 300, among which mr. Magalotti, lieutenant in the regiment of the guard. They say some of the enemies are prisoners with ours, but yet it is not certain. An Irish regiment is there within, and we may have some of them very soon. Some other encounters a party of ours had with the enemies in another place, where (as some say) marquis de Sucerac, son to mr. de Harpajon, was taken prisoner, and brought to Rocroy. Mr. count de Vivonne, son and heir to the duke of Mortemart, and first gentleman of the king's chamber, met another party of the enemies, where he hazarded himself most of all; and it was reported he was killed; but it is not so, as we have by fresh letters, but that he is retired wisely without any harm, of which the king is very glad, he being one of his favourites.

The court sent of late an express to England to our ambassador mr. de Bordeaux, that he might declare to the protector, he had orders from the king to return, if the treaty were not signed within the latter end of this present month.

It is written from Vitray in Bretagne, that the states do well in all affairs, having already offered to the king 1,200,000 livres, mr. Grand Maître of the artillery being parted to come to court. Also that the said states, and the parliament of the province were not yet agreed upon their different points. The trenches of Landrecy were opened two days ago, and mr. Turenne hopes to be master of Landrecy within twenty days, though strong it be, which is all the news known at present to,

Sir, your faithful servant, &c.

A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.

Paris, 3^o June, 1655.

SINCE the king's army has laid siege to Landrecy, it being impossible for the prince Vol. xxvii. of Condé to cast any relief in the place, he had posted his army between Landrecy p. 465. and Guise, thinking to hinder several convoys, which were sent to our camp; but after some little hindrance, they have passed by very happily by the vigilancy of the duke of Grammont, who has at his return cast 1500 men into St. Quintin, and two regiments into Corbie, this last being threatened a siege by the enemies, which are strong chiefly in horse. And if the Spaniards phlegm doth not stop mr. le prince's courage, there is no doubt but he will undertake some considerable thing. In the interim, the court hath not thought good to stay longer at la Fere, and was yesterday to go to Soissons for greater security. The queen and the duke of Anjou are gone first, and are to be followed within a day or two by the king and his eminency, unless the prince should attempt upon some place; in which case the king will stay at la Fere, to be nearer his army. The lines of Landrecy being ended, the trench was opened the night of the 26, 27, where few were killed, and none of quality, save mr. de Bogemare, captain of the guards. The rumour was yesterday, that mr. le prince had defeated a little convoy, in which several gentlemen had been killed; but that news is not true; for the last letter from la Fere and from Guise make no mention thereof. The besieged make several sallies of little consequence. That which I write unto you is that, which is the most constant and the most certain.

The news from Catalonia advise, that the prince of Conti hath besieged Castellon, and that he was very near being taken by the enemies in making the approach of that place; his horse fell in a ditch, out of which he could hardly be got. That prince had received some harm thereby. 'Tis thought our armada of Toulon is designed against Barcelona. It is shortly to go laden with many foot soldiers.

The

A. D. 1655.

The opening of the states of Bretagne was the 14th instant. The mareschal de Meilleraye and the great master his son made a very fine speech, to persuade that assembly to grant unto the king the sums he hath demanded. They have offered fifteen hundred thousand livres; but the court understands, that they should give a great deal more. The deputies of the parliament did not meet there, because of the misunderstanding between those two bodies. The next day was represented the importance of the edicts sent by the said parliament unto the states, concerning the seal of the king's domain, the imposition of 32 sols upon each piece of cloth of one hundred yards, and such other money-busineses.

The keeper of the great seal of France sent some days ago for a certain preacher in controversy, chiding him for having, against his majesty's will and edicts, held some discourse tending to sedition against those of the religion; and for representing in a picture one of the most famous persons of christendom hanged; with threatenings to send him to the Bastille, if ever he did so again.

The lieutenant civil, upon the complaints made unto him by several protestants, that there was in this city a certain man clothed in blue, who went preaching along the streets, only to stir up the people against the said protestants, and make a sedition through Paris; the said lieutenant has ordered the commissaries of the quarters to seize upon that person, and in case they do it not, when he shall preach, that they shall answer for it in their own persons.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, June 30, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 477.

YOURS by this post I received of the 24th instant, by which I see the old cavaliers are destined to be ruined. Cannot they yet be quiet, after all they have seen and suffered? The protector cannot be too severe to such continued disturbers; and here the indifferent much blame the cavaliers for being so turbulent, when they may live quietly.

The court is impatient, that the protector will not permit the articles concluded upon for a peace betwixt France and England to be signed, and much talk there is of it; so that at court (as my best intelligence gives me, and to be free with you) the most part would have no peace with you. They say you are too insolent and unworthy of an alliance with France, being upstarts, and many such reviling speeches. They say, they shall get more by a war with you than a peace. Marquis de Leda's negotiation is not now so much suspected to them; the reason I do not know.

There has been long since, as I writ to you, a treaty betwixt R. C. and cardinal Mazarin, that the first should be married to one of Mazarin's nieces, for he has yet two in store; the one for *Rex Gallie*, and the other for R. C. You may be assured, there is at present a treaty betwixt R. C. and cardinal Mazarin to this purpose, which is renewed, being begun in Paris when R. C. was there; for you may judge, what otherwise Mazarin projects, whilst he dissembles a peace with his highness. As time will let us see in the particulars, more of this you may have by next. I have no more, but what you have in the occurrents from,

Sir, yours, &c.

A letter of intelligence.

St. Quintin the last of June, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 589.

SINCE my last I received two of yours, but they were too long by the way. I am come hither from the leaguer, being indisposed. Our lines are finished about Landrecy, and indeed the best that ever I did see. There are twenty thousand foot within the line actually doing duty, and six thousand horse. The rest of the horse are attending the enemy's motion, and to cope with marquis de Castelneau upon any occasion. The enemy is encamped within two leagues of our camp in Chateau Cambresis. Yesterday morning they took in a place called Bolme, midway betwixt this town and Landrecy.

This day we expect this place to be besieged. Marshal Grammont has here 4000 foot and 1000 horse. A world of the gentry are flocking hither to defend it. The court is at la Fere five leagues hence; only the queen went to Soissons yesterday, and with her the duke of Anjou.

Anjou. President Linie, prince Condé's confident, is taken by some one of the garrison A. D. 1655.
of Quesnoy.

This Landrecy is mighty strong. I am certain much blood will be spilt about it, which is all of that siege as yet.

We are confident yet of our peace with the protector, notwithstanding marquis de Lede's negotiation, and what passed in Savoy. If this place be not suddenly besieged (as we much fear it) you shall again soon hear from

Yours.

A letter from mr. Muddiford at Barbados.

June 20, 1655.

SINCE my last the scene is much changed, we having been lately advertised, that a Vol. xxvii.
panick fear seized upon our soldiers at their first attempt upon Hispaniola, whereby P. 507.
300 men drove 9000 to retreat; which took so deep an impression in them, that no exhortations could make them approach that place again, where they received their affront; so that they took up resolution for Jamaica as a place more suitable to their courage, though no way answerable to their number. If God hath given them their hearts again, you will hear they are settled there, sooner from themselves than we shall. The great Charity arrived here but three days since, and is now going down to them, by whom are also sent two Dutch men laden with manatee, which were seized on for trading contrary to the account of the 30th of October 1650, which was sent by us, for fear the natives will drive away their cattle, and that victualls will be their great (pray God it be not their mortal) want. I fear nothing will prejudice the design but that. It would have grieved your soul to see how lamely and scatteringly their supplies came. Certainly had the king of Spain but half the intelligence in our councils, which by his pensioners he had in the time of former princes, he might easily have surprized them all; but (God be praised) they are all (though late) safely past this island, the first going hence the 26th of April, but was not with them the third of May, which was the time (we are advised) they deserted Hispaniola. And though I was much troubled at that unexpected affront we received there; yet I am not at all sorry they are gone to Jamaica, but could heartily have wished it had been their first attempt, that it might have seemed rather choice than necessity. It is apparently (seeing they would have an island) far more proper for their purposes than the other or Porto Rico, as the situation in the maps will make more visible. It hath an excellent harbour, and is accounted the most healthful and plentiful of them all. It will be sooner filled, and is far more convenient for attempts on the Spanish fleet, and more especially the Carthagena fleet, which must halt within sight of it, as they go to the Havanna. And believe it, this will more trouble the court of Spain than ten of the other; and therefore it must be expected more attempts will be by the Spaniards to supplant them. If therefore you have an opportunity, press his highness and the council to send speedy and great supplies of men, arms, ammunition, and clothes; among which be sure not to forget the long pikes and good corselets, that security of an army, which I doubt was the want at Hispaniola; and also saddles and compleat arms for a good proportion of cuirassiers. I hope our nation will not draw back, having thus far entered; for I am most confident, that if this place be fully planted, which in three or four years may with ease be done, his highness may do what he will in the Indies. Truly if the men on shore be well armed, and a handsome number of frigats be kept at sea, with God's blessing, there is no fear of success. I had gotten near one hundred families, that would have gone from hence to Hispaniola, and do hope still to induce them for the other place, when we shall have advice of their settlement. All men must strive to settle and fill the places with speed; and his highness must order the commissioners to encourage what possible.

A letter from mr. Muddiford at Barbados.

June 20, 1655.

WE hear by a letter from Middleton, that the king of Spain is gone to St. Lucar, and Vol. xxvii.
is forming a great army and fleet for these parts. Truly, if he should attempt P. 515.
Barbados, he will find us in an unsettled condition; for though we have men enough, and some number of horse, and they pretty well armed, yet they want conduct, and a mind to reduce us to unity; for such ugly divisions are nourisht and underhand fo-
VOL. III. 7 E mented

A. D. 1655. *W*mented amongst us, that you would, were you here, wonder at it; and all grounded upon that malicious apprehension they have against this settlement in the Indies, fearing (for-footh) it will make sugar cheap, and thin this island of people, which when the wood is gone (and that cannot be long first) must fall of itself. From hence the militia fixt and settled by the commissioners is opposed, the levies and perfection of it infinitely impeded, upon pretence that none but their own governor must appoint their militia, and that not without consent of the assembly, that his power and authority is eclipsed by this way. These have a party in the assembly, and there voted Bayes (the old firebrand) to go home with a petition to his highness, chiefly desiring that our governor may receive orders from no man but immediately from his highness, against which Francis Raynes, William Vassall, Peter Kent, and myself have drawn our dissent, and shewed our reasons, and do hope they will prevail. The party is so much countenanced, that the governor's council have joined with them. One of them told John Colliton, the reason was, because general Venables said, they were a company of geese. I know no way to help this evil, but some smart orders from his highness, confirming what his commissioners have done, requiring a strict obedience to it.

Since the writing of the above we have met at the assembly; and being they could not carry their petition and desires as they would, they made a motion, that the assembly had sat long enough, being twenty two months, and therefore desired the governor would dissolve it, which (every man being willing of ease) was consented to, and the desire allowed of by the governor; so that now there is no assembly in the Barbados. I thought good to enclose a copy of our reasons.

Reasons why we, whose names are underwritten, cannot consent to the instruction and desire, whereby his highness is to be requested, that no commands should be laid on our governors, but such as come immediately from himself.

Vol. xxvii.
P. 517.

1. **B**Ecause they think it unfit to circumscribe or limit the supreme magistrate in a matter of so great a consequence, and so high a nature as this is, viz. to confine him to a single person, seeing his liberty and undoubted prerogative is to employ whom God shall please to direct him.

2. It seems very dissonant to reason, to tie him up from employing men under his command of parts, tempers, and dispositions suitable to the present occasion; which time, and place, and other circumstances may offer.

3. It is impossible his highness can dispatch all business himself, or indeed take notice or account of all dispatches; and therefore must of necessity do it by second persons, or else leave the business undone, which may prove very prejudicial to the country.

4. The subscribers conceive, that this will be looked on rather as a bold capitulation, than an humble request; and so may be a means to give his highness displeasure, whereby a jealousy may be begot to the bringing of some curb on this place.

5. This will be a great hinderance to his highness's affairs in these parts, in begetting some difficulties in procuring the assistance, which we may without prejudice yield to his highness's ministers; and therefore to prevent the great prejudice, which this desire may bring on this country, they, according to the trust reposed in them, utterly dissent from the same; thereby desiring to be adjudged free of the ill consequences of the same. In witness whereof they have hereunto set their hands.

The dissolving the assembly hindered the progress of this debate; but I believe they will find such an one as will agree to send it; for I find them so much inclined, that I am resolved not to be of it.

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

Vol. xxvii.
P. 485.

IHAVE now, through the good hand of the Lord, bine through the most considerable parts of Lemster, Munster, and Connaught, and may acquaint your highness, that the Lord is pleased to give these parts very much peace and quietnes, and doth begin, beyond all expectation, to grow up into a settlement and plantation. A very goodly country it is; and if the Lord please, that it were but better peopled, it would not be inferior to England. There is great plentie of all things, beyond what can be imagined, considering what devastations there have bine. The work of transplantation, which I have chieflye in my eye, about which I made four or five dayes stay at Athlone, I am now in more hopes that it wil effectually be carryed on then it hath; and I hope thorough mercy

mercy the way of settlement and encouragement, which I trust the Lord did there direct A. D. 1655. us unto, will prove of happy advantage to so necessary a worke, which if the Lord please to blesse and prosper, will make this nation of much happynes to future generations. The earle of Westmeath and most of the considerable gentry of Lemster were there; and that done by us in order to their settlement will, I hope, (for the future, as well as it seemed to doe for the present) give them satisfaction. I find there is three or four places, that would be of singular concernment and advantage to your highness's affaires, if they were settled in such hands as might answer the duty of what importance those places call for; and therefore I shall presume humbly to present your highness with my own thought and intentions: to make collonel Clerk governor of Corke; his discreet management of affaires would, through the Lord's blessing, give a happy settlement to all those parts. Lieutenant collonel Brasfield, who is a singular deserving person, and a faithfull servant unto your highness, I intend to dispose of to Galloway and Athlone, where now he is, it being a place most apt for business, where the authority of this nation must sometimes reside. I doe intend to have my own company brought thither. I do most humbly sue, that lieutenant collonel Kelsey may have Londonderry and Carrickfergus, whose valour and discreet courage will prove of happy consequence to these parts. There are many professors, and therefore one thoroughly principled in the things of God must be there. Indeed if your highness can but spare these two persons, I doubt not by the Lord's blessed presence with your highness, you will have no just ground of reports for any, but this nation will prove a comfortable place of habitation, and will be alwayes kept in faithfull obedience to your highness, as at present through mercy they are, and no dissatisfaction doe I find in any. I confesse I doe not know of what more importance these persons can be employed about then in being thus disposed off; and therefore must again most humbly sue that I may not be denyed, who am

June 20, 1655.

Your highnes most obedient

and most dutifull servant,

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

Since the above written I have considered to tender unto your highnes, whether it was not better to have collonel Clarke amongst the Scots, and collonel Kelsey at Corke; whose sober Christian tender spirit may be very serviceable to those in the county of Corke, where there are many professors of different persuasions, and some under, as we call it, of a low dispensation, whose forbearance towards them will be necessary. Let none prevayle to put into those places any persons but sober, gracious persons.

R. Parker, &c. to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONNOURABLE,

WEE beinge prisoners att present under the custodie of sir John Lenthall, and Vol. xxvii. heareinge his highnes soe much abused by his servant, viz. one Symon Thomp- P. 503. son, who called his highnes rogue, villaine, and murtherer; and John Attkinson his turnkey, when he had a banisht person within the prison, was commanded to stop him, for he had the kinge of Scotts his commission about him; and instead of detaineinge him, untill wee had sent to a justice for a warrentt, he presently with the assistance of Thompson conveyed him away, though both of them were charged in the name of his highnes to secure him upon treason. Wee all haveinge from the beginnunge served under his highnes, could not with silence see and heare his highnes soe much wronged by such persons; and therefore wee humbly address ourselves to your honor, and crave your assistance in bringinge these persons to a speedy punishmentt fuitable to their high offences. Wee shall prove what wee charge them with; and if your honor will be pleased to send a warrentt for the seizeinge them, we shall ever remaine

Your honor's most obleiged servants,

Upper Bench, this 20th
June, 1655.

GEO. GREY,
RO. PARKER,
JOHN WALSHE,
LAURENCE BROWNE.

Col.

Col. Charles Howard to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvii.
P. 497.

SINCE my comming downe, I have donne my endeavours to putt your commands in execution. Thos, whoe you intrusted with me, to secure the malignants, I have mett with, and we have imprisoned all the most dangerous, and taken bond off the rest of the disaffected in these northerne parts. Thear are severall, whoe I wish might be sentt to the Barbadoes, both men off fortunes and others, beyng such, whoes principles and temper fitt them for disturbance upon any opportunity. The militia troopes are in a forwardnes, the captaynes and lieutenants goyng cheerfully on in thear work; but the cornetts, that is to say, Babingdon for Northumberland, and Langhorne for Cumberland, have both refused: the first I beleeve thinks the place below him, the other will not undertake any souldiers imployment, though active in your highnes service otherways. I doe therefore humbly offer capt. Atkinson, who is apoynted quarter-master to the Cumberland troop, that he may be cornett to it, beyng unwilling to accept the other place, and one capt. Bewly, whoe hath been always a faythfull man, that he may be quarter-master. Besides thes I have sent names to mr. secretary for the Northumberland troop, and desire your highnes pleasure concerning them all by the next post, by reason it will be some obstruction in the work, if the officers be not settled against the day of muster. I hope I need not say any thing to make your highnes beleeve, that I am and shall be diligent to serve you; though whatt your highnes tould me touching an information might have given me ground to speak aboutt itt, which through forgetfullnes I did nott, before my comming out of towne; but I have since repented I did not, least iff any doubt remaine in your highnes thoughts, I might have better cleered it, then I can at this distance; butt my owne heart doth witness soe much cleernes to me off all my thoughts of you and towards you, that it occasioned my not reflecting upon whatt you said then. I shall conclude with this, thatt besides the great ties off conscience, honour, and gratitude, I have a particular one, which is due to your person, and that I can say with bouldnes is soe hearty, thatt noe man that serves hath more; and itt will appear in cafes of greatest difficulty, thatt he speaks truth, whoe subscribes himself your highnes

Newark, June 20, [1655.]

Most obedient and faithfull servant,

CHARLES HOWARD.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to count Brienne.

July 1, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxvii.
P. 519.

I SHALL neither yet write the signing of the treaty, nor my departure out of England.

The secretary of state defended himself for a week, through the absence of my commissioners; and since their return I have been delayed from day to day, without any pretence, which hath forced me to ask audience to take my leave; for I must confess, I dare not stay any longer, having received precise order not to admit of any further delays, nor continue my abode any longer in England; for if I should venture to stay a while longer without effect, I might be justly blamed. Besides, it is a very hard matter to get to understand the secrets of this government. The said secretary and my commissioners do only excuse themselves, that they have no order; and I was informed by one not long since, that the secretary of state told him, that the treaty would be signed within a few days, without any delay; and he likewise declared unto me, that he was well informed, that my lord protector did expect no other thing from the Duke of Savoy, than he would give his protestant subjects leave to live according to the edicts, which have been formerly agreed unto them; but I believe this is not all, I do mistrust something else. The collection, which is made here for them, will amount to a very considerable sum, sufficient to maintain several troops: the certain sum which hath been gathered is not yet known, but must needs amount to a vast sum; for every body gave something to seem charitable, and the ministers have plaid their parts to some purpose, to stir up the people to assist their persecuted brethren. Coll. Fiennes, one of my commissioners, was sent for out of the country, not to sign my treaty, but rather to receive the oath for his establishment of one of the lords commissioners of the great seal, there having been lately a very great alteration made in the courts of judicature, there being several judges that have delivered up their commissions, because they would not act against the laws of the country.

Mr.

Mr. Greenhill's certificate in behalf of major Manley.

BEING informed, that major Manley lyeth under some aspersions of cavalierisme and malignancie, and desired to testifie my knowledge of him, these are to certifie, whomsoever it maye concerne, that I doe conceive the Lord through his grace hath wrought of late yeares a great and gracious alteration in him, and sanctified those rich abilitys of nature, with which he is indowed; and from what I both have observed in him, and heard also from others, doe judge him fitt, not only for civill imployment, but also for church communion, beeing faithfull and gracious.

Stepn. June 21, 1655.

WM. GREENEHILL.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvii.
p. 525.*A letter of mr. H. Daubne at Cadiz.*

July 2, 1655. [N. S.]

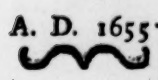
SIR,

I WRITT you a hasty letter some few days since, giving you notice of the suddayn and great confusion, that fell among all my fellow-merchants heer upon the apprehension of the imminent danger of theyr persons and estates in this country, which seemed to be threatned by general Blake's manner of appearing and demeanour uppon this coast; but most of all confirmed by the over hasty goeing away of the ridiculous pretended agent James Willson, after whome most of our nation fledd aboard likewise. But seeing afterwards the civil deportment of this people heer towards them, and that the danger was not so neere theyr dores as they imagined, they most of them returned agayn, and emptying all theyr warehouses have so disposed of theyr estates, that now they have nothing to doe but to secure theyr persons, which they are now all resolved to doe by this shipping, that lyes off ready to receive them, which are the very shippes, that brought general Blake his provisions so lately from England. Now whether our state have any hostil intentions against this nation or no, mr. Willson's so suddayn and uncivil goeing away can never, in my opinion, be excused by himself or any man els, not onely for exposing the lives and estates of all his countrymen heer to unnecessary danger, but also the very designe itself (which it is manifest his highness there would have had carryed on with all secrecy) to an over early discovery; and so if any prevention be made heer, it will be playn who is to be thank't for it, as now they are very busy about setting forth of an armada of 50 sayle, which they say themselves (but I beleeve it is but talke) by the middle of this month shall be ready to sett sayle to guard theyr coast, and secure home theyr galleons. They have in the mean time dispatched divers avisos, which are likewise to goe severall ways, if possible to meet them, and direct them to putt into some other ports. Certayn it is, that immediately uppon Willson's goeing away, the *Nova Hispania* fleet, that was lading ready to goe out, are now unlading, and all shipping of trade putt into a warlike posture; nor did this man's folly or knavery (chuse you which) content himself with bare running away, but soe soon as he was aboard, writt a letter to the governor heer, wherein he acquainted him, that he was commanded to doe what he did by the generall, and advis'd a weeke before they came hither by captain Bodilo from Gibraltar, that he should prepare for a speedy escape; assuring him, that there was a suddayn breach intended to be made with Spayn, as also giving sufficient intimations in good time to guard theyr galleons, and throwing durt in divers particulars uppon the government in England; but that is no newes to those, that knowe his conversation heer, howsoever for his own ends he pretended publick imployment heer, being wholly animated with a parliamentary and presbyterian spirit. Thus I have made bold to trouble you with a long story of an idle person, not that he is worth it, but because you and the whole exchange may know how things have been carryd heer. It would be a more endless peece of impertinence to trouble your patience yet further with the recitall of all the obloquys and opprobrious language, that this people in theyr passion cast uppon our nation in generall, taxing the whole state with infidelity and ingratitude, to returne their courtesys with such injurys, and in the very time, when they are treating of a more firme peace, and coming hether to furnish themselves with beveridge and other necessaries, to imploy their provisions to theyr own punishment; moreover paying constantly, as they say, such great sumes of money into England to purchase our protectour's frendshipp. But this is but the language of the gentlemen heer only; for it is sayd, that the king and his counsell will not yet be perswaded, that the English have any ill intentions towards them; and though the commercio of Seville, St. Lucar, and this place have offered at theyr own cost and charges to sett out this great armado, as yet they have no peremptory orders for it

Vol. III.

7 F

from

A. D. 1655  from the court, but only a letter from the king; if they needs will, they may, if they please, imploy his shipping that lys heer in theyr service, though for his own part he declares himself thoroughly satisfyd in the reality of the English friendship. The people heer doe likewise tax general Blake in this particular of very much discourtesy and uncivillity in his carriage heer towards the duke of Medina at Port, and Condé our governor heer in not answering theyr love, as they call it, though but complement, with equal kindenesse, and weighing anchor from hence without giving them notice, or taking a civil, at least ceremonious leave: but they lay the highest imputation of all uppon him in giving shelter to the Turks of Algier, who sayling by, through, and sometimes in his fleet, are so imboldned to ly heer uppon theyr coast, and have effectually taken divers vessells of theirs, and doe put all the shipping of other nations in so great a feare, that they dare not stirr forth. Some there are, and none of the meanest of this place, that will not be perfwaded, that the generall does any thing of this by order from my lord protector, but that he does intend to revolt from him, and having ceized the riches of the galleons into his hands, means to make a present of it with his whole navy to the pretended king of England, theyr declared enemy and his. But thees are some particular men's fancys only, and which they are the more easly induced to, being formerly posselt with so favourable an opinion of our state, and so honourable a confidence they had in the friendship of his highness in England. And truly I thinke there was never in the world visible so strange and suddayn a change of faces and affections, as now is to be seen throughout this towne and country. All this I thought necessary to give you notice of, that you may not onely knowe how things pass heer, but that you may likewise acquaynt all your freinds there with it, and alltogether joyne to seek the Lord, to turne all this present tumult and confusion of our trade to the best advantage of his own glory, and the good of our whole state; and if the whole be a gayner, wee may be sure particular men cannot be loosers, there being such conscience and integrity in those that sitt at the sterne. But in the mean time my case is like to be the most miserable of any man's heer, for whilst all others can dispose of themselves into some security, I onely ame bound to abide the brunt of the storme ensueing in an open boat, and yet have neyther anchor, rudder, or ragg of sayle to help myself withall. Certaynly I need say no more to you of this particular, for you must needs be as knoweing of my condition as myself; and now I must confes I am at a stand to imagine how you will be able to releeve me, unless by getting your freind there to make use of some forreign merchants assistance to convey both letters, &c. hither. So with a something sadd and a litle distracted, but a truly dutyfull, and never despayring hart, I remayn still heer, as I must, till you shall otherwise command and dispose of,

Sir, your most humble, faythfull, and

affectionate poore factor to serve you,

H. DAUBNE.

This goes by the Maydenhead, and a duplicat
by the King Fernando.

Nieuport, *the Dutch ambassador in England, to the states general.*

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Vol. xxvii.
P. 553.

MY lords, on saturday last, June 26, the lord Nathaniel Fiennes, and the lord commissary Lisle, took session in the court of chancery, and after that the first named had mentioned the reasons, which had induced the lord protector and the council to draw up a new regulation and order touching the proceedings in the said court of chancery, he caused the said regulation to be read openly; and after the reading he commanded every one, sollicitors as well as others, that for the future they should in every respect regulate themselves accordingly. The fees and profits of the judges and council are greatly lessened thereby. The great seal itself, as I am informed by a good hand, is not yet altered, though it is known that another was making. On monday last the lord marquis of Leda, accompanied by two lords of the council, and attended by a vast many coaches, was conducted to the Tower wharf, and accompanied from thence by sir Oliver Flemming and some other gentlemen went in seven barges down to Gravesend, from whence in his own coaches he went to Dover. In the last visit I received from that lord, he told me again, that he was come over only to make a compliment, and having done this, he had no reason to stay here any longer. And that don Alonzo de Cardenas was and remained instructed and authorised for those affairs, that were to be negotiated between both. The collection for the oppressed Waldenses was finished last sunday, according

according to the regulation, I heretofore acquainted your high mightinesses with ; and as A. D. 1655.
 I am informed of this affair, a very considerable sum of money has been gathered, and
 a good regulation is making to have the same safe brought hither to London out of the
 provinces and far distant places. The officers of the army in Scotland have drawn up a
 paper to general Monck, wherein they mention, that having understood the bloody
 persecution carried on against those of the reformed religion in the Dutchy of Savoy, it
 went very much to their heart, and therefore they could not help declaring their deep and
 sad resentment at those barbarous and inhuman cruelties, as also their hearty compassion.
 And therefore they had thought fit to assure his excellency, that in case it should please
 God to come to an account of the blood that has been spilt, and to revenge there the cause
 of his people, and his excellency should call them or any one of them for that purpose, they
 were ready in such a cause to hazard their lives and fortunes with all chearfulness and
 willingness. The last advices from Scotland bring likewise, that Glengary has at last ac-
 cepted also the propositions, which were made to his commissaries ; so that at present no
 body in Scotland appears any more in arms against this government. In Ireland the sol-
 diers of the respective regiments are put into possession of such lands, which fall to them
 by lot, and they take vast pains to bring that country again under a good culture. This
 week we have had no news from the fleets ; in the mean while they continue here with
 great application to get several ships and frigats ready. There are also at Chatham and
 other places several new ships and frigats building. The new cavalry in all the counties
 of England upon such pay and regulation, as I have heretofore mentioned to your high
 mightinesses, is entirely compleat, as also the militia of foot soldiers under such officers as
 are appointed by the lord protector himself. The marquiss of Hertford and several other
 noblemen in the country have been secured since my last, but they say, will soon be releas'd
 again, and that it was done only to prevent new troubles.

Wherewith, &c.

Westminster, July 2,
 1655. N. S.]

High and mighty lords, &c.

(Sign'd)

W. NIEUPORT.

Nieuport, the Dutch ambassador in England, to the states general.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

MY lords, just now I am informed by a person of distinction in the government, that the Vol. xxvii.
 lord protector has acquainted the council about an hour ago, that a merchant, mr. Noel, P. 557.
 who is a great trader to the English plantations in the West Indies, had received news from
 St. Christopher's, that general Venables, on the 28th of May old style, with 10000 foot
 soldiers, besides sailors, had landed in Hispaniola, and that he had made himself master
 of the town of St. Domingo. The said merchant is very well known, and therefore
 this news is believed to be true, by those that have any knowledge of the design. The
 same gentleman told me likewise, that the lord protector had received letters, that the fleet
 under admiral Blake was arrived in the road of Cadiz ; but whether the same was to re-
 main there or thereabouts, or whether she was to come home, was as yet kept a secret. The
 lord protector, after he had communicated the said news as aforementioned in council, is
 gone with the lord president and mr. secretary Thurloe to Hampton-court.

Wherewith, &c.

Westminster, July 2,
 1655. [N. S.]

High and mighty lords, &c.

(Sign'd)

W. NIEUPORT.

A letter of intelligence.

Brussels, July 2, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

YOURS I received of the 25th of last month, for which I have not much from hence Vol. xxviii.
 to return at present. Landrecy is strictly besieged. Our army must suddenly relieve p. 537.
 it, or 'tis lost. Some say, the prince of Condé, with the flower of our army, will besiege
 some

A. D. 1655. some of the enemies garrisons, and not attempt the relief; which shall be done, or what, we shall shortly know.

The arch-duke, Fuenseldagna, prince de Ligne, Carolo Campi, with the rest of our army, are this side of Landrecy, and prince Condé with his army is on France side.

I am afraid the town will be lost. There is one Irish regiment within it, colonel Murphy's. There were in the town above 2000 foot and some 400 horse; but I doubt they are now short of that number; and for all other things the town is very well furnished with all sorts of martial provision.

Prince de Ligne doth as yet exercise the office of count Garzias deceased, as I wrote to you in my last but this. The French boast their king, queen, and cardinal are very desirous to see Brussels this year, and to kiss the queen of Swedeland's hands. Let them do, if they can.

The archbishop of Mechlin died here the last of the last month: his corps were translated to Mechlin. We do not like here of marquis de Leda's sudden return; and the English merchants upon it are packing. We long to hear of your fleet in the West Indies. Here passed an express from the emperor to the archduke Leopold; his business I do not yet know.

We have here strange news, that in England three showers fell lately, the first of stones, the second of blood, and the third of dogs. This you wrote nothing of, as you had reason, being I am sure lyes.

We begin to suspect much now a war with England. I hear the marquis de Lede landed in Dunkirk, and is now in the way hither; which is the relation of this week, from,

Sir, yours.

The protector to Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland.

DEAR CHARLES,

In the possession of Joseph D'Anvers, of Chelsea, esq;

I Write not often. At once I desire thee to know, I most dearly love thee, and indeed my heart is plaine to thee, as thy heart can well desire; let nothing shake thee in this. The wretched jealousies that are amongst us, and the spirit of calumny turns all into gall and wormwood. My hart is for the people of God; that the Lord knows, and I trust will (in due time) manifest; yet thence are my wounds, which, though it greives me, yet (through the grace of God) doth not discourage me totally. Many good men are repining at every thing, though indeed very many good well satisfied and satisfying daily. The will of the Lord will bring forth good in due time.

It's reported, that you are to be sent for, and Harry to be deputy, which truly never entered into my heart. The Lord knows, my desire was for him and his brother to have liv'd private lives in the country; and Harry knows this very well, and how difficultly I was persuaded to give him his commission for his present place. This I say was from a simple and sincere heart. The noyse of my being crown'd, &c. are like malicious figments.

Use this bearer, mr. Brewster, kindly; let him be neare you; indeed he is a very holy able man, trust me, you will find him so; he was a bosome friend of mr. Tillinghurst; ask him of him, you will thereby know mr. Tillinghurst's spirit. This gentleman brought him to me a little before he died, and mr. Cradock, mr. Throughton, a godly minister, being by, with himselfe, who cried shame. Dear Charles, my dear love to thee, to my dear Biddie, who is a joy to my hart, for what I hear of the Lord in her. Bid her be cheerfull and rejoice in the Lord once and again; if she knows the covenant thoroughly she cannot but doe; for that transaction is without her sure and steadfast between the father and the mediator in his blood; therefore leaning upon the son, or looking to him, thirsting after him, imbracing him, we are his seed, and the covenant is sure to all the seed; the compact is for the seed; God is bound in faithfulness to Christ, and in him to us; the covenant is without us (a transaction between God and Christ) look up to it; God ingageth in it to pardon us, to write his law in our heart, to plant his fear, that we shall never depart from him. Wee under all our sins and infirmities can dayly offer a perfect Christ, and thus we have peace, and safety, and apprehension of love, from a father in covenant, who cannot deny himself: and truly in this is all my salvation; and this helps me to bear my great burthens.

If you have a mind to come over with your dear wife, &c. take your best opportunity for the good of the publick and your own convenience. The lord blefs you all. Pray for me, that the Lord would direct and keep me his servant. I blefs the Lord, I am not my own, but my condition to flesh and blood is very hard. Pray for me, I do for you all; commend me to all friends. I rest,

Your loving father,

June 22, 1655.

OLIVER P.

Mr.

Mr. Thomas Peerce to secretary Thurloe.

WOERTHY SIR,

IT grieves mee to the hart, that his hihnes and your honor are so incensed against mee for my faithfull duty to his hihnes. Your honor knowes thear is not the least thing in thoes papers, but I did acquaint you with. When you were pleased at first to receive mee, I acquainted your honor to the full in what I had comitted and what I knew: with your honor's advies I went over, and met with mr. Armorer at Antwerp. Hee was glad to see mee, and asked about my escaep: that I will let aloen. I had studyed what to say, that I might knowe what thear intentions were against his hihnes's person and the commonwealth. I told him, that I had frinds, that would willingly serve the king, if they might doe it with safety. Hee asked mee, what they were. I put down soem merchants in a noat, which is in my syfor; but truly it was to fend their full intentions, and desired I might have the assistance, which they thought fitt to murder his hihnes. Mr. Armorer went with mee two days journey to meet my lord Wilmoeth and sir Edward Hyed, and acquainted them, what I had sayed. They were very well pleased at it, but would not by any means have any attempt as yet upon his hihnes person. Thoes pakets, which I broeght overr, should have coem to my hand loong befoer I was taken, which I acquainted your honor of all; and that letter, which is for mr. Dampert, by your orther I was to keep till he caem to town. I told you of the particulars of it then; for their instructions how I should treat with as many as I could waerely, and they thinck my father and brother will bee a great assistance to mee. I am shuer my father will cary it discreetly, if occasion weor for his hihnes advantage. I did intend when I had coem to your honor to take your advies, whether I should make him acquainted with mr. Morton, or not. I am certain hee will bee faithfull in what hee undertakes. Then I acquainted you, I must wriett what I thought would bee for his hihnes, which you bid me doe. You wear of the opinion, when I caem over, that they had a plott upon his hihnes person. I could not beleeeve it, by reason I am shure I should have bin one of the first in it. To bee better informed, I wriett that the greatest of my freinds weor dead, and thoes that were alive wear very fearfull, by reason his hihnes and the counsell had taken such a strait orther, and soe great a malisha rayesed, that they would not meddle but upon good grounds; and I told him, theer was but small hopes at present to deal with any of the army by land or sea, till his hihnes wear cut off. In answer to it hee would by noe meanes, till he had spak with the rest of his frinds, hoe hath full power from them to treat with mee in all things; and in his last, which I have not, his man hath it to shoe mr. Rankert and mr. Clee, that he may get horses from them; but all that is in it is to dispatch his man away, and mr. Watters with all speed, for now is the time to treat. This last letter I could not acquaint you with, but I did it with all partickelers of the rest. If your honor's bushefs will make you forgetfull of this which I acquainted you with, I have not; and when your honor pleases to spare soe much tiem, I will rehears all partickulars in all what I told you, which will be doen in Tower. I have not had the instructions of the gentleman, which came with mr. Armorer's man on satterday. I should, but I was prevented by my imprisonment. What letters I received you have, and what I sent I faithfully acquainted your honor with, and what I had from oethers I shoed you, and sent them away by shiping, which I acquainted you with. Wheather they be goen or not, I canot tell. I hope this imprisonment will not misfinable at all to serve his hihnes: if it doe privatly, it shall not doe publykly to death. Thoe letters which I brought you knoe in oen packett, was for mr. Moerton, one for doctor Wyeld, one for mr. Clee, which I protest is all, and that to Dampert and mrs. Gree, which I had from a merchant. I was to hasten mr. Morten and doctor Wild and Clee to follow ther bushefs; but they find all people floe, and have done nothing as yet, unless mr. Morton hath, which I shall knoe to the full, when I meet with him. Your honor was pleased to tell mee, that you would have mee deal ingeaniously with you, which I did and will to death. I am shuer where any of them coems over upon an attempt, I shall have the secuering of them, and his hihnes and your honor's disposing, and then it will doe well, that I should bee put up for a tiem, and a little severly uested. Your honor and I agreed upon all this. You knoe what a confidence they have of mr. Firkark, which they think gives mee intelligence, and thereupon I desired the pas to keep him and I in credit with them; and it would not be amis, if hee did not wryet soemthing, and let it bee sent over with mr. Armorer's man. They have a good opinion of mee yet; and I desired them they should provide for mee theor, for fear I should be forsed to leave this countrey. Since I was received by your honor, I vow to Almighty God, and as I desired to bee saved at the day of judgment, and by my Saviour that suffered for mee, I wriett noething to you but the truth of my proceedings, nor acted either in thought, or deed, against his hihnes, the coun-

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvii.
p. 567.

A. D. 1655. *W*ell, or commonweleth, let mee never coem to heaven, and whenever I doe, lett me be maed an exfample to all maen living. My wife tould my keeper, that one mrs. Dyek and mr. Nelson went to the gentlewoman, that ufed to bring my letters to your honor, and tould her, they wondred how I durst goe abroad ; but they fwor by their faith, they would quickly fet mee fast enoue. I can fay noe more, but leave all to the Almighty God, with my prayers to his hihnes, and your honor. I will continue till death

From the Tower, June
22, 1655.

Your honor's faithfull
and obedient fervant,
THOMAS PEERCE.

Lord Broghill to ſecretary Thurloe.

WORTHY SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 571.

I HAVE had ſuch good experience of your kindneſs to me, that if it were my owne private concernment, I could not thinke you needed a remembrancer ; but beinge for ſome dayes haſtily called out of towne, and the requeſts I make unto you relatinge to others, I hope you will pardon my mindeinge of you concerninge my lord Grandifon's allowance, who really is ready to periſh ; as alſo the referringe my lord Suffolke and ſir Charles Harbord's buſineſs to the lords commiſſioners ; and if to theſe two obligations you will excuſe this confidence, you will at leaſt as much oblidge,

Whitehall, 22d of June,
[1655.]

Sir, your very affectionate
and humble faithfull ſervant,
BROGHILL.

Major general Haynes to ſecretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 575.

SYNCE my laſt to my lord Lambert (wherein I gave him a briefe underſtanding of what the gentlemen of theſe fowre counties had done in proſecution of his highneſs inſtructions) there hath come to their hands ſome further account of thoſe, that weare apprehended uppon their ſeverall orders ; the perſons of greateſt quallity are found abſent from their homes : a perfect lyſt of ſuch as are taken, with the places to which they are ſent, as alſo the names of thoſe that we could not apprehend, with what information we can gett of their now reſpective abodes, you ſhall receive ſoe ſoon as the whole comes in. In the meane time I thought it my duty to informe you, that my lord Maynard playd leaſt in fight, and hidd himſelfe (as we have cauſe to feare) for he was at home but a little before our party came to his houſe ; and hearing that he was eſcaped to my lord of Suffolke's, they followed him thither, but miſſed of him, he being (as they underſtood) gone thence directly to London. In his houſe were found ſundry armes well fixed, and newly fitted for ſervice above 20 foote armes, and 12 caſe of piſtolls, and proportionable furniture for ſoe many horſes, beſides eleaven carabines, with halfe a hundred halberts and javellings, all which are ſafely brought to Colcheſter. My lord Lucas dwelleth in Common Garden, and my lord Rivers in London, but the certaine place I cannot learne. The gentlemen heere haveinge putt their inſtructions in full execution, doe now moſt earneſtly deſire their liberty, haveing had little to doe for this weeke, and have noe other ſatiſfaction in their preſent ſtay, but that thereby they performe their promiſe to his highneſs, that one of a county would abide uppon the place to be in readineſs to perſue any further inſtructions his highneſs ſhould tranſmitt to them. Pleaſe therefore to mynde his highneſs thereof, that ſoe his pleaſure may be knowne therein, which I am fully perſwaded will be by them obſerved with all chearfullneſs, wherein alſo ſhall not be wanting the beſt endeavours of,

Bury St. Edmunds, June
22, 1655.

Sir, your truly humble ſervant,
H. HAYNES.

The chancellor of Russia's answers to mr. William Prideaux.

[June 22, 1655.]

Alexander Michahlowich, by the mercy of God great lord emperor and great duke of all the greater and lesser Russia, self upholder of Moskokeof, Uladomer, Novogorod, emperor of Cazan, emperor of Astracan, emperor of Syberia, lord of Pfzafesko, and great duke of Smolensko, Tweriko, Ugorsko, Perasko, Vatsko, Bulgarisko, and others; lord and great duke of Novogorod in the lower lands, Charnegodsko, Rezanfsk, Polotfsk, Rostonesko, Vereftavesko, Belozerfsko, Oodorsko, Obdorsko, Condinsko, Weeptepfsko, Mustis-Lansko, and commander of all the northern parts, and lord of Everske lands of the Kurtolmiske, and Gruzinsko princes, and Kebardinsky lands of the Cherioske and Egorfsko dukes, and many other empires and countries in the east, west, and north, successor of his father and ancestors, lord and commander. His imperial majesty's chancellor of the ambassadors office, and prince, counsellor, Almaze Juaneue, his answer to William Prideaux, messenger from Oliver protector of the commonwealth, of England Scotland, and Ireland, and other lands, which are added to them.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvi.
p. 395.

In the present year 7163, and the 28th day of February, you being in the ambassador's office spake with me, and gave me in writing, viz. That Oliver protector of England and all his council ordered you to speak to his imperial majesty, that he would be pleased to renew and confirm the former gracious privileges to the merchants of the English company, which were given to them formerly by his imperial majesty, and that his majesty would be pleased to name the number of them, that they, their heirs, and their servants, that they send into his majesty's dominions, may freely trade without any custom or other impost on themselves or their goods as formerly, and that it was advised of by the protector and all his council, why the English merchants were sent out of his majesty's dominions, and were commanded to come no further than the city of Archangel.

Ans. In the four past years in the days of the former emperors of Russia, and in the days of the great lord duke and great emperor Michael Phederowich of all Russia, lord and commander of many countries, the father of blessed memory of his present imperial majesty, there was given to them his majesty's gracious letter upon the desire of the former lords of famous memory, James and Charles, kings of England, and order given to them to trade in Russia freely beyond all other nations without custom; and they by that his majesty's grace of trading free and without custom, were to bring into his majesty's dominions all sorts of goods, velvets, satins, damasks, taffeta's, cloth, gold, silver, pewter, brass, silk, and all other outlandish wine, spices, powder, lead, and all other goods to be good as formerly. And whatsoever goods they bring to Archangel, or to Mosco, and that there were need of any of these goods for his majesty's use, they were to give those goods into his majesty's treasury at their prizes they cost in England without any profit; and those English merchants that traded in Russia heretofore by his imperial majesty's grace, traded many years without custom, and by that free trade without custom grew very rich, and got great estates, and brought their goods and delivered them into his majesty's treasury at the true price without any addition. And when those former merchants left off trading, there were in their places other English merchants, and they by his imperial majesty's grace traded, but brought few goods, which were needful in his imperial majesty's treasure, and never gave them at the true English price, but set them not only at the English price, but much dearer than the Dutch; and because of their so dear prices for many years goods were taken into his majesty's treasure, not of the English, but of the Hamburgers and Hollanders, because the Hollanders sold their goods into his majesty's treasure a great deal cheaper than the English; and what goods the Hollanders had not were taken into his majesty's treasure of the English merchants, it was at excessive rates, and a great deal dearer than the Hollanders goods, and from thence much damage was done to his majesty's treasure. Therefore the taking away of the privileges came from themselves; and the English merchants, to whom the privilege was given by his imperial majesty's father of blessed memory Michael Phederowich of all Russia self upholder, are now near all dead; and there traded in their places other merchants, factors, and call themselves by their names; and these merchants brought secretly into Russia and carried secretly out of Russia forbidden goods, and they took from other strangers much outlandish goods, and brought those goods from Archangel to Mosco, and never entered these goods in the custom-house at Mosco, or any other city, but sold them as their own goods, and at Mosco and other cities bought Russ goods for many strangers, as if it had been for themselves, and carried them to Archangel without custom, and sent them secretly as their own goods beyond seas.

A. D. 1655. *feas.* By this false trade much damage was done to his majesty's treasure; and of these things they were often told, but they would not desist from their false dealing. Therefore his imperial majesty commanded, that for those their faults they should be graced no more. And he commanded, that those English for their much falsehood should go beyond sea with all their estates, and that they should trade in Russia with all kind of goods from beyond sea to Archangel, and custom to be taken of their goods as from other strangers, but over much custom not at all to be taken of them. And for the future his majesty's order concerning the English merchants, by the desire of Oliver protector of England, &c. shall be fitly given concerning friendship and amity. But now in regard his imperial majesty hath so much warlike affairs in hand, he cannot so suddenly give any order.

And that it stands in your writing, that the English hath heretofore been assistant to the former emperors of Russia by men, arms, and money, and to their subjects by corn.

Answ. Because the English nation in the time of war did any friendship to the former emperors of Russia, therefore those emperors graced these merchants to trade here many years freely without custom beyond all other strangers; and by that trade they got themselves great estates, and therefore they ought to know and remember that grace of our emperors. And that it is written, that corn was brought out of England in the time of the great emperor of famous memory, Michael Phederowich of all Russia, sent by their late lord king Charles. Therefore by the order of the said emperor corn was suffered to be sent from hence for England at a low rate, without any profit; and had it not been sent from hence by his majesty's order, a great dearth of bread had been among them.

And that it stands in the writing, that you desire, that the English merchants may have their debts on his majesty's subjects, which are due to them.

Answ. By the order of his imperial majesty it is commanded, that his subjects, that are indebted to the English merchants, should suddenly and with all conveniency pay their debts; but there appears much falsehood among the English merchants concerning their debts, they having received their money by bills, kept those bills by them, and gave receipts under their hands of the payment of the money, and afterwards petitioned for payment the second time on the said bills, as it was told yourself, and a copy of the receipt given.

And it stands in your writing, that what debt an Englishman makes in Russia, it may not be reckoned upon all the English, but that he that made the debt may pay it, and not any others but those that are security for it.

Answ. The subjects of his imperial majesty, or those English merchants that are indebted one to another of a long time, they are to account together according to their bills. If the debtor be not present, the debt is to be demanded of their servants that are present; and his majesty's order concerning debts is to the English on his subjects, so it is to his subjects on the English; and those that are indebted one to another by new debts, that they make an end together amongst themselves, and to have nothing to do with other men's bills.

And that it stands in your writing, that his imperial majesty's gracious letter concerning the making of pot-ash was given to the English agents, Symond Digby's wife, and to their cousin John White, an Englishman, for ten years; and that business being taken away from John White, was damage to them alone 4000 rubles.

Answ. That John White's design of making pot-ash was not of much consequence, and it was in company with his imperial majesty's colonel Alexander Crawford, and all of it was not for a thousand rubles, therefore it could not be, that much damage should arise. And it is well known to his imperial majesty, that that English man was indebted to colonel Alexander Crawford, and he sat up that making of pot-ash on gentlemen's lands; and Alexander Crawford on his debt, and those gentlemen, on whose land the pot-ash was made, petitioned to his imperial majesty many times, that the Englishman John White paid not Alexander Crawford his debt, nor them for their lands and trees, and all necessary. Therefore that business was taken from John White, it arose from his false dealing.

And it stands in your writing after a lofty manner concerning your cook and Russian servants, which were taken out of your house in the holy great Lent, and that therefore you would not receive his imperial majesty's grace of fables and allowance, but took it as a great affront.

Answ. Those cooks were taken out of your house, because they were runagates, and would not live at their own homes, and would not pay his imperial majesty's subsidies; and concerning

concerning their running away, many of their own friends petitioned to his imperial majesty, A. D. 1655. and upon their petition they were taken and sent with security to their former place of living, there to pay their part of contribution. And moreover those cooks were taken away, because it was the time of the holy Greek Lent; and according to our true Christian faith and Greek religion, at that time we are to eat no flesh of any kind, neither could they boil any flesh; and in the room of those cooks it was commanded, that other people should be lent you, but you would not accept of it.

Remarks of mr. Prideaux.

A. IT is true, that the chancellor gave me a copy of the receipt, but the contents are therein contrary to what he sayeth; for that Thomas Woodcock the English merchant by that receipt discharges the Russes, that were his debtors, for the sum contained in it; and by virtue of that acquittance they may receive up their bills that were put in the office before the acquittance was made. The chancellor's error I made appear to him the next day after I was with him, when that I had the acquittance translated out of Russe into English; but it seems the answers he hath given me were made before that.

B. The excuses he makes for the taking away my cooks, are altogether most false and frivolous; for when they were taken prisoners, led to the ambassador's office, and then put in irons, it was then told them by the chancellor (as I have already written) that they were punished for serving me his highness lord protector's messenger; and that it was done in that respect may plainly appear by this, that as soon they were freed out of prison, they served in the Sloboda two English merchants for cooks, and serve them to this day. And well it is known to the chancellor, and nothing is said unto them. They are both of them poor young men, and under their parents, and cannot pay any thing to the emperor except it be for their persons.

To Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Paris, June 3, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

I HAVE sent your letter of the 28th to my lord your father at Genetoy, where he still resides, and doth make account to stay there some longer time. Vol. xxvii. p. 583.

The court was forced to remove in some disorder from la Fere to Soissons through the approach of the prince's forces. The siege of Landrecy proceedeth very well; the trenches are opened; a fortnight's time, it is thought, will make us masters of that place. In pursuance of the cardinal de Retz's letter to the two priests, they have taken upon them for the function of great vicars, which hath very much displeased the king, who hath sent them to come to him. This business doth cause some alteration in the minds of people, and may be in the end of some bad consequence. Endeavours are used in the mean time to accommodate the same.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, July 3, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

YOURS of the 28th of last month I received, importing not much of news. What here is you may see in mine of occurrents. What I writ in two former letters, that there is a present and late treaty betwixt cardinal Mazarin and R. C. for a marriage, is true. R. C.'s mother would never consent; but R. C. unknown to her has passed his word to cardinal Mazarin. What further shall be of it will appear; and if this be as true, as it is said, what peace can his highness expect from France? Our treaty with you is at a stand on your part, yet we are confident it shall be soon concluded. What V. xxvii. p. 589.

You have a letter from your friend in the army, to which I refer you for news in these parts; having not else at present,

Sir, I am yours, &c.

De Lionne, *the French ambassador at Rome, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.*

Rome, July 3, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvii.
p. 607.

I HAVE received your letter, wherewith you were pleased to favour me of the 7th of the last month; and now I shall answer you by the way of Holland, which I find to be the safest. I hope that the pretence, which the protector takes to defer the signing of your treaty upon the business of the Vallies of Savoy, will suddenly cease, since monsieur Servien, ambassador for the king at Turin, hath writ me word, that he hoped to accommodate the same in a short time, according to the orders, which he had received from the court, although it is not a war for their religion, but a pure revolt against their prince.

This court is still barren of such news as is worthy to be sent to you. The great business, which we have here, and that which doth take up my time at present, is that about the cardinal de Retz, whom the king would have to be suspended, having recourse for that to the justice of the pope. The difficulty, which doth hinder us at present, is, that I have demanded of his holiness to have French canons for commissioners, according to the custom of France. His holiness is willing to give commissioners, but he will send from hence. This is in short the business in dispute. I expect further orders from the court.

Heinsius, *the Dutch resident in Sweden, to the states general.*

Stockholm, July 3, 1655. [N. S.]

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 639.

THE general assembly, which hath lasted for these four months, is now at last brought so far, that the same will be ended to morrow, as the same hath been publicly proclaimed by sound of drum and trumpet by order of the court through this city. And now the departure of his majesty is daily expected. There are two extraordinary ambassadors from Poland arrived within few miles of this place, certain advice thereof being brought to this court, and will be here to morrow. It is believed, that this will not hinder his majesty's departure in the least; and that there is order given to make ready a ship with all speed for the said ambassador to follow the king for Pomerania, where he doth intend to treat with them.

Avaugour to Bordeaux, *the French ambassador in England.*

Stockholm, July 3, 1645. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 591.

I SHALL be less surpris'd at the rupture with England, if it happens according to the advice, which you have given to mr. Chanut, than at the signing of a treaty, which hath been delayed from time to time upon such weak pretences. That which they take at present, doth sufficiently declare the little good will they have at present to an accommodation; but it doth still justify more and more the good intention of France to a peace. But I shall forbear to publish any thing till I hear further. This court is now busy in consulting about the choice they are to make, whether of peace or war with Poland, and the resolution will be taken within few days. Here are arrived two extraordinary ambassadors from Poland. They only signified their arrival half a day's journey off this place, where they do receive ambassadors. The king of Sweden doth make an account to part the next day after their first audience, and to take them with him, either to treat with them, or to advance his army, being not willing to lose any more time.

We are here in suspense till this business be ended. I have orders to follow the king.

The assembly of this kingdom is to end to day. All things are past to the king's content; and that, which could not be ended here, is referred to the next.

A letter

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, July 3, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

THE lord Jermyn is goinge to Cologne to know the king's pleasure, what he will have done with the duke of York. A. D. 1655.

The siege of Cambray doth advance apace. The lines are finished, and the trenches opened. Vol. xxvii.
p. 599.

The court is come to Soissons, the prince of Condé having frightened them from la Fere.

*A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.*Paris, the $\frac{3}{11}$ July, June, 1655.

SIR,

WE have at present no news from Landrecy, save that the enemies have to no purpose strove to cast a relief therein; and that they have posted themselves two leagues from our camp, to incommode our army. The queen and his majesty's brother are at Soissons, where his majesty is expected with the cardinal. There is a rumour, that an exprefs from Rome is come to court, with order to speak only unto the king, who thinking to send him unto his eminency, the said exprefs hath refused to see him, and will deliver the pope's packet to none but unto his majesty. Vol. xxvii.
p. 611.

The abbot Ondedei, sent here by the court to watch over the affairs of the clergy, having founded here the chapter of the archbishoprick, to know if the vicars heretofore established by the king, instead of those of cardinal de Retz, would receive that quality, the great dean hath answered him in the behalf of the company, that if the said command was renewed by a decree of the council, it should be obeyed.

The chancellor, the keeper of the great seal, the overseer of the exchange, and the attorney general named Bignon, have met of late upon the notice received, that the pope will name twelve cardinals as commissioners to examine cardinal de Retz.

Process with nomination is pretended here to belong unto the king, and the approbation thereof unto the pope. The said chancellor hath caused command to be made in his master's behalf unto two curates of our parishes, St. Magdalen and St. Severin to go to his majesty. The first has obeyed, but the second was gone out of town, the subject whereof yet unknown. One named Berthet, secretary of the king's closet, and a person well beloved of cardinal Mazarin, was set on by some persons appointed by the duke of Candale, as he passed by the Louvre in a chair, which persons cut his hair, his beard, and tore his linnen and his clothes, for saying in a company of ladies, that the said duke, his fine apparel and his perriwig laid aside, was not handsomer than another man.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, July 3, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

I HAVE but little of news since my former. It's written from our camp or siege about Castillion in Catalonia of the 18th of last month, that prince Conti continues always the said siege very hot; he himself both night and day on horse-back, to observe the designs and march of don John of Austria, who was then within two leagues of that place with 3000 horse and 4000 foot, being equal to the number of our army there. Don John is watching to relieve the place the best he can, having received exprefs orders from his majesty of Spain to that purpose; and it is thought, that this siege will hold till the beginning of July. By the next you may hear something of it. It is written from the camp of Landrecy of the 30 last month, that the convoy last entered to that camp, met with 200 horse of the enemies, which were beaten by the dragoons of mr. la Ferte, which killed several of them, and took prisoners above 80 of them; of which the most part are Lorainers, and of which about 80 took party with ours; as also their commander. That the prince Condé marched with 8000 men towards the river of Somme side, and the rest of the Spanish army marching after, and very near him, being certainly 14000 horse and above 8000 foot, all the Spanish army being comprehended, Vol. xxvii.
p. 595.

except

A. D. 1655. except those of duke Francis of Lorain, being but a small number, which did not yet join the body of the army, and another little body of 1000 men, that are yet about the river of Lys. However the whole Spanish army are now within 6 leagues of la Fere, and less to the camp of Landrecy, which torments ours highly, knowing not their designs. However it will not be long before they will undertake something. What it may be is not yet known. The king came last wednesday from Soissons, to visit the queen and his brother, but returned to la Fere next day again, where the court continues as yet.

The court sent last sunday letters de cachet to the two grand vicars made here lately by cardinal de Retz, commanding them to follow the king, and come to him, where he is, that they might satisfy his majesty about their proceedings in Paris, since they received commissions from cardinal de Retz. He of St. Severin obeyed, but the curate of St. Magdalen was not found within, though several of the commissioners looked for him. However the abbot Ondedei, first secretary to the cardinal, who was here about that business, parted on thursday, and is gone to court.

Last monday mr. Berthet, secretary of the king's cabinet, was met by 10 or 12 cavaliers near St. Thomas at the Louvre. They entered the secretary's coach, their pistols in their hands, and one of them drew out a razor, and cut the secretary's beard and hair, for which the secretary having informed against such people, not knowing what they were, it was found out at last, that that piece was played by monsieur de Candale, of whose hair the secretary had some impudent discourse before a certain lady. We have from la Fere of the 30th last month, that the prince has taken a fort or two of ours, called Bouchain and Cattillion, in hopes ours would raise the siege of Landrecy, or that that would hinder relief from the camp; but he is mistaken, for ours have enough of provision in the camp for these 30 or 40 days to come; so that he can but hinder our convoys, or besiege some other place. The cardinal is a little indisposed of a colick, which caused him to be let blood. The gentlemen sent to Savoy by the protector of England arrived at Lyons 6 days ago, being conveyed along by 8 of the king's body guard, which is more civility (as they say) than ever the protector shewed to his majesty of France as yet. It is not believed here, that the protector has broken out with Spain as yet, notwithstanding marquis de Leda's return, which is all at present. By the next you may hear more from,

Sir, your humble servant.

It is written from Marseilles of the 22d of last month, that duke Vendosme arrived there, where he was gallantly received, and within two days after returned to Turin, to prepare his fleet to go to sea. We know not yet to what design, only thought he must sail towards Italy or Catalonia.

The grand master of artillery parted yesterday hence, going to court, where it is thought his marriage will be concluded with the cardinal's niece.

The duke of Parma granted us the passage for our troops to pass in his territories, of which he made some difficulties hitherto. Sir, your humble servant.

It is reported here of late this same day, that admiral Blake came near Tunis, where he demanded the liberty of some English slaves there, which he was refused, and there sunk a great quantity of their ships that were in that port, as you had before. Upon which the grand Seignior gave orders to seize upon all English merchant ships that pass in their seas; having now, as said, to the value of fifteen millions, of which expect more by the time, &c.

The states general to the burgomasters of the city of Embden.

Vol. xxvii.
p. 603.

WE have received yours of the 18th of May last, written there the 12th of the same month; and did therein perceive, that you were resolved to send hither your commissioners against the appointed time, being the first of this month, to confer about the limitation with the commissioners of the prince and state of East Friezland, according to our resolutions of the 28th of April last. But we have not yet seen any of them, notwithstanding that the day is already elapsed, and that the commissioners of the said states have already appeared here. Wherefore we have thought fit to desire you most friendly and neighbourly, that you would dispatch hither your commissioners to the end aforesaid, according to our resolution; otherwise we should, though unwillingly, be necessitated to order our commissioners, appointed and authorized for the said liquidation, to proceed with their business, and finish the same, notwithstanding the absence of your commissioners; which we hope you will take into worthy consideration, whereupon we do rely. Done the 3d of July, 1655. [N. S.]

H. Cromwell

H. Cromwell to *secretary* Thurloe.

SIR,

I GAVE you the trouble of a letter from Northampton, desiring that the judges commissions might meet mee heer, but have not heard any thinge of them. I came hither with all my family safe and in good health the laste night. The Lord make us thankful for it. When I came out of towne, I thought I might have performed my journey in less time, but indeed the wayes and the weather provinge soe very bad, I coulde not possibly gett hither sooner. I intend to loose noe time to gett forward, and therefore resolve one monday to goe to the place of shippinge, wheer I shall only waite for a winde. It would be verrey convenient, that I had the judges commissions to carry with me. If they be sent by next poste, they may possibly overtake me. I have bin treated with a great deall of respect frome the countrey in my journey hither, and finde noe less heer. I pray God direct you in your greate affairs, and bringe us to a good issue in them in his good time. I ame

Chester, June 23, 1655.

Sir, your truly affectionate freind

and humble servant,

H. CROMWELL.

Allowances of the lords of the council.

| | Total allowance
at 1000 <i>l.</i> per an. | Whereof paid
by mr. Jessop. | Rest. |
|--|--|--------------------------------|------------|
| Lord president | | | |
| Lord Lambert | 1523 06 0 | | 1523 06 0 |
| Lord Lisle | 1523 06 0 | 500 00 0 | 1023 06 0 |
| Sir Gilbert Pickering | 1523 06 0 | 500 00 0 | 1023 06 0 |
| Sir Charles Wollsey | 1523 06 0 | 500 00 0 | 1023 06 0 |
| From Dec. 16, 1653,
to June 24, 1655. } Colonel Montagu | 1523 06 0 | 500 00 0 | 1023 06 0 |
| Colonel Sydenham | 1523 06 0 | 500 00 0 | 1023 06 0 |
| General Disbrowe | 1523 06 0 | 500 00 0 | 1023 06 0 |
| Mr. Strickland | 1523 06 0 | 500 00 0 | 1023 06 0 |
| Colonel Jones | 1523 06 0 | 500 00 0 | 1023 06 0 |
| Mr. Mayor | 1523 06 0 | 500 00 0 | 1023 06 0 |
| Mr. Rous | 1523 06 0 | 500 00 0 | 1023 06 0 |
| From Dec. 20, 1653,
to June 24, 1655. } Major gen. Skippon | 1509 10 0 | 500 00 0 | 1009 10 0 |
| From Apr. 27, 1654,
to Dec. 24, 1655. } Lord com. Fiennes | 1161 07 0 | 500 00 0 | 0661 07 0 |
| From June 30, 1654,
to June 24, 1655. } Earl of Mulgrave | 0986 05 0 | 500 00 0 | 0486 05 0 |
| From Feb. 7, 1653,
to day of his death. } Colonel Mackworth | 500 00 0 | | |
| Lord deputy
Sir Anth. Ashley, Coop. | | | 13913 08 0 |

The commissioners appointed by his highness the lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, Ireland, and dominions of the same, with advice of his council for managing affairs in America.

To major general Richard Fortescue, commander in chief of all the English forces in the island of Jamaica.

WHEREAS it hath pleased Almighty God at present to visit general Venables, our fellow commissioner, with sickness, the issue whereof is only known to his divine majesty; and we, according to our duty and his highness's commands, taking into consideration, what effects might follow thereupon amongst the army, in case it should please God to take him away, none being nominated or authorized to succeed him in

VOL. III.

7 I

point

A. D. 1655.

Vol. xxvii.

P. 643.

Vol. xxvii.

P. 675.

Vol. xxvii.

P. 647.

A. D. 1655. point of command. And we having good experience of, and being well satisfied as to your wisdom, vigilancy, fidelity, fitness, to manage and supply the said place and trust, do by virtue of a power derived to us from his highness's commission and instructions, elect, nominate, authorize and appoint you the said major general Fortescue, to be commander in chief of his highness's army now in the island of Jamaica, and the same to command and govern in as full and ample manner (and do all things else in reference to the said army) as the said general Robert Venables did or might have done by virtue of his place and charge, for the advancement of his highness's service in America, till his pleasure be further known and certified touching the same. Hereby desiring, and (in his highness's name) requiring all colonels, lieutenant colonels, majors, captains, lieutenants and officers whatsoever, together with all subordinate officers and soldiers, to take notice of, observe, and obey you accordingly. And yourself to adhere to the advice of his highness's commissioners aforesaid, or such of them as shall be present with you upon the place, or in their absence to your council of war, in all things tending to the good of the service and design, for which this army was set forth, according to his highness's instructions given the said general Venables. The force of this commission to commence immediately after the death of the present general (if God please to dispose before his highness can otherwise order) and continue till his said highness shall further provide on that behalf. Given under our hands and seals this 24th of June at Jamaica aforesaid 1655.

WM. PENN.

William Penn, *esq*; one of the admirals and generals of the fleet of the commonwealth of England,

To captain William Goodson, appointed admiral and commander in chief of a squadron of the said commonwealth's ships ordered to remain in America.

Vol. xxvii.
p. 663.

WHEREAS his highness by letters patents dated at Westminster the 9th of December 1654, for several considerations him thereunto moving, hath been pleased, by and with the advice and consent of his council, to commit the conduct and command in chief of the fleet and ships employed in this expedition into America unto me; and hath thereby given me power and authority to give commissions to all officers, as places respective should be vacant by death, or otherwise; and to exercise martial law, according to the rules and articles appointed for government of the state's fleet, and the general and known customs of the sea; and also to dispose of this fleet, as might be most advantageous to the publick, by advice of his highness's commissioners or a council of war. And forasmuch as I have, by the advice of the above-named, ordered great part of this fleet to go presently home for England; and that by advice aforesaid the ships Torrington, Marlton-Moore, Gloucester, and several others, (as by a list of them) do continue in these parts of America for the service of his highness till further orders; I have for many reasons to me well known, and for the trust and confidence I have of your ability and faithfulness, thought fit, and do hereby accordingly nominate, constitute, and appoint you vice-admiral William Goodson, to be commander in chief of the said squadron of ships to be continued out in these parts. And do hereby authorize and empower you to order, manage, and command the same; and to do, execute, and perform in them all things and matters, in as full and ample manner, as if I myself were present; thereby willing and requiring all commanders of or belonging to the said remaining squadron, or such as shall hereafter come and be joined thereto, to observe, follow, and obey in all things relating to the fleet for the good of the service, as ought to be done unto myself, until further order. And for your better direction in the ordering and managing of the trust committed to you, you are to observe and follow the directions and instructions herewith delivered unto you; and all such further orders and instructions as you shall hereafter receive from his highness or others authorised thereunto. Given under my hand and seal of anchor this 25th of June 1655.

William Penn, *esq*; one of the admirals and generals of the fleet of the commonwealth of England,

Instructions of captain William Goodson appointed admiral and commander in chief of the squadron of ships of the commonwealth of England, ordered to remain in America.

Vol. xxvi.
p. 446.

WHEREAS by a commission on that behalf you are constituted admiral and commander in chief of that part of the fleet, which is to stay for the assistance of this

this army, and advancement of his highness's service in America, you are to follow and observe these instructions following : A. D. 1655.

1. You are to take into your charge and command the Squadron hereafter particularly to be mentioned ; that is to say, the Torrington and all other ships hereafter following and arriving in these parts, unless some other be commissioned for the same by superiors.

2. You shall use your best endeavours (by all opportunities presenting) to seize, surprize, and take all ships and vessels belonging to the king of Spain, or any of his subjects in America, or of any other who shall assist or aid him, or shall be enemies or rebels to the commonwealth ; together with the tackle, apparel, ordnance, and ammunition, and all and singular the goods, wares, merchandizes, and monies ; and in case of resistance, to sink, burn, and destroy all such ships and vessels ; and require all persons under your command to do the same.

3. You shall take care, that such goods, ships, monies, wares, and merchandizes, together with all their cockets, bills of lading, invoices, accounts, and writings whatsoever, that shall be found in them, or belonging to them, which you shall take and seize upon by virtue of the power given unto you by these instructions, be preserved without embezzlement, and delivered to his highness's commissioners, that so they may come in account to the state.

4. When you shall seize, or take any purchase, and bring the same where the commissioners appointed by his highness are, that then you desire the said commissioners to appoint some able trusty person or persons to join with the like, which you shall choose ; and that the said persons so appointed do set a due valuation and apprizement of ship and goods ; and when you deliver up the said prize or prizes by the commissioners order, you are to take a receipt for the full of what you shall so deliver, that the seamen may be satisfied in how much they may expect shares from the state.

5. And whereas divers people of this commonwealth have sustained, and do daily sustain great damages by having their ships and goods seized, pillaged, and surprized by divers French ships, and Frenchmen subjects to the king of France ; and although redress hath been fairly sought, yet none can be obtained ; you shall therefore, by virtue of his highness's instructions to myself in reference hereunto, seize, arrest, surprize, and detain, and in case of resistance to sink, burn, and destroy all such ships and vessels of the French king, or any of his subjects, which you shall meet with ; together with their tackling, apparel, ordnance, and ammunitions, and all and singular the goods, monies, wares, and merchandizes therein, wheresoever the same shall be met with upon the seas ; and the same so seized, arrested, or surprized, shall secure without any manner of wasting or embezzlement of any part thereof, and shall deliver the same to the commissioners as is above expressed.

6. And whereas there is an act of parliament of the third of October 1650, entitled, An act prohibiting trade with the Barbados, Bermudas, Virginia, and Antego (which was seconded by his highness's special command to myself) to seize, surprize, and take, and in case of resistance, to sink, burn, and destroy all ships and vessels belonging to any foreign nation whatsoever, which shall come to trade in, or traffick with, or that you shall find coming from any of the English plantations in America, or any islands, ports, or places thereof, which are planted by, and are in possession of the people of the commonwealth of England, without licence first had and obtained from the supreme authority of the commonwealth, or those empowered by it thereunto. And yourself is to take notice of this article, and issue out orders to all ships of war that shall come, as I have done to those that are already come, to the same effect.

7. You shall take care to preserve the honour, jurisdiction, territories, and people of this commonwealth within the extent of your employment ; and in all places where you shall sail, endeavour, as much as in you lieth, that no nation or people intrude hereupon, or injure any of them.

8. You shall in this employment take care, that all instructions given to you, and other flag commanders, as to matter of discipline and other things relating to the well ordering and managing of a fleet, be put in execution, according to the laws of war and ordnance of the sea.

9. And you have hereby further power allowed you, that upon just grounds, and by consent and approbation of a council of war, you may suspend any captain from his employment, and also give commissions or warrants for places in any of the ships under your command, as they may happen to become vacant by death, or otherwise.

10. You shall wear the jack flag at the main top mast head during your continuance in the service aforesaid.

11. You shall be careful to give to his highness the commissioners for the admiralty and generals of the fleet, and communicate intelligence of your proceedings as frequently as you can, that you may receive further directions as there shall be occasion.

A. D. 1655. 12. So long as you shall continue upon this employment at this place, you are to receive directions from his highness's commissioners, and by all opportunities advise with them touching the improvement of your time, and benefit of the service; and in case of their absence, then to govern your most eminent affairs by advice of a council of war.

13. You shall herewith receive about 1000 l. cash, which you are to manage as thrif- tily as you may upon contingencies; and when you issue order for the payment of any part thereof, cause some principal commander in your squadron to sign together with you; and so (in case of mortality) let all other bills be signed. You shall also receive a sum of money to pay your seamen remaining with you for their short allowance for the time past, all which money is in pieces of eight, which you are to issue out and pay at the rate of sterling per piece.

14. You shall as constantly as may be keep sea with so many of the fleet as you can; and that in such places, where you may most infest and annoy the enemy, and otherwise advance the service required by his highness.

15. That by all means, and upon all occasions, you do effectually assist, supply, and succour the army, to the best of your power.

16. And whereas there are large stores of provisions, of ammunition and other things, arrived from England for this army, and they having no conveniences of store-houses to receive it ashore, it is by order of the commissioners put aboard several prizes in this harbour, till they can make provision to put it on land; and for that the said army have as yet raised no fortification to defend and secure the harbour, it is desired by general Venables (and I pray you order it accordingly) that two ships always in the absence of the rest, may be left as guard for it, untill such time as they, by fortification of the port, or otherwise, shall further secure it.

17. And whatsoever you shall deliver out of any ship under your command for the use of the army, cause receipt to be carefully taken for the same, that there may be a due charge laid upon the officers which receive it.

18. And whereas there are several stores taken out of those ships, which go first home, and left here for the supply of those that stay with you, you are therefore to take punctual care, that the same be issued and disposed to such as shall most stand in need of it, and that receipt for it be duly taken, that the state by neglect of such care be not endamaged.

19. And whereas (as is before mentioned) there is a sum of money left in your hands to pay for the victuals, which hath been gained to the state, by men's going to short allowance, you are to cause the certificate (of the just number of men borne, and quantity of victuals saved to the state) of every ship under your command to be signed jointly by the respective commander, master, steward, and checquer; and upon payment of the said short allowance money, you are to cause two at the least (of the aforesaid officers) to sign the receipts, according to the orders I have formerly issued out to the whole fleet on that behalf.

20. And whereas all particulars cannot be foreseen, nor positive instructions for such emergencies so beforehand given, but that many things must be left to your prudence and discreet management, as occurrences may arise upon the place, or from time to time fall out; you are therefore upon all such accidents relating to your charge, to use your best circumspection, and by advice either with the said commissioners or your council of war, as occasion may be, to order and dispose of the said fleet, and the ships under your command, as may be most advantageous to the public, and for obtaining the ends, for which this fleet was sent forth; making it your special care in the discharge of that trust committed unto you, that the commonwealth receive no detriment.

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|----------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Torrington. | 2. Gloster. | 3. Marlton-moore. |
| 4. Laurel. | 5. Dover. | 6. Portland. |
| 7. Grantham. | 8. Selby. | 9. Martin. |
| 10. Arms of Holland. | 11. Hound. | 12. Falmouth. |
| 13. Unity Dogger. | 14. Hunter-brig. | 15. Greyhound-brig. |
| 16. Ostrich-brig. | | |

General Penn to major general Fortescue.

June 25, 1655, at Jamaica.

SIR,

IT is my request, and so farre as my authority may allow mee, I require you, that A. D. 1655.
 commissioner Butler bee acquainted with all transactions of your affaires, that from time
 to time hee may bee the better able to give his highnesse an account of all passages in
 these parts. Likewise hee being the only commissioner, that continues here, I desire you
 would not dispose of the treasury-stores, prizes, or prize-goods, without his knowledge
 and consent, his highnesse reposing such confidence in his faithfulness; and that accounts
 be carefully and justly kept, to the end his highnesse bee not endamaged. Thus farre I
 thought fitt to impart my desires, nothing diffident of your willing compliance to the
 same, because only things just and reasonable shall ever be desired by,

Sir, your very humble servant,

WILLIAM PENN.

Major general Disbrowe to secretary Thurloe.

DEARE SIR,

I AM this morninge goeing for Taunton, wher I hope I shall settell the other troope for Vol. xxvii.
 that county; and from thence into Glostershire, and settell those; and within ten or P. 667.
 twelve dayes to be backe againe at the furthest. If you judge it convenient to order me to
 apointe some persons to se these troopes in these 6 counteys muster'd, I shall doe it, be-
 cause I have a desire to be at their musters, to se them together, and talke with them.
 I thinke it will doe no harme. I did write to you about coll. Bennett, who is yet at
 London, for ought I heare; and his absence hinders that troopes raysinge, though I hope
 it will goe on. But I pray let me heare what he will doe, if you can speake with him.
 I desire you would not forgett that, which I did writte unto you about mony for the
 shrifes foote here. I thinke it very strange, that men should be rayfed, and kept up nere
 5 months, and no pay allowed them, noe not one peny. I have sent all our Devonshire
 gentlemen, we have in custody, to Plymouth, and ordered one company of foot theither
 to be their guard. I doe intend the Somersetshire gentlemen to this place; they are to
 come to morrow. I have not yet had any word about the prisoners here, what shal be
 done with them. I shall not trouble you further; only rest your harty freind and servant,

Exon, June 25, 1655.

JOHN DISBROWE.

The prince of Condé to Barriere.

From the camp at Radancourt near Guise, July 5, 1655. [N. S.]

I SEND you a letter for monsieur de Cardenas, wherein there is a letter inclosed from Vol. xxvii.
 don Lewis, for me to receive 25,000 escus more, besides the 50,000. I pray take of P. 649.
 him such necessary orders under the name of mr. de la Cour, my treasurer at Antwerp, for
 the payment of the said sum, and put them into the hands of mr. Chantemesle, to carry
 them to the lord president Viole: if not, you may send them directly by the post, as you
 did those for the 50,000, I pray lose no time.

*An extract of a letter from Zurich.*25 June, } 1655.
5 July, }

THE deputy Histrel is to go as embassador to Turin, together with the secretary In the possesi-
 Schmidt and three others from the cities. The envoy from England spake high on of the
 to us, and will speak louder at Turin. He went through Lyons the 1st. There is a truce, right honour-
 but will be dangerous, if it tend to a treaty without mediators. England and Holland able Philip
 are sued unto to send embassadors to act jointly. The king of France is advised to lord Hard-
 take those Vallies into his own hand, that he may always have the gates of Italy in his high chancel-
 power and free. Great stirs in Languedoc. In England they are not rightly informed, lor of Great-
 Britain.

VOL. III.

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A. D. 1655. what Zurich will do, and war cannot be begun, because the popish cantons, being in league with Savoy, would also take arms; and the canton of Berne itself is not free from alliance that way; and if we become a party, we cannot be mediators. We with your presence. We know not whether England and Holland cause with their letters money, also help, to come to the Vallies, &c.

Mr. William Prideaux to the chancellor of Muscovy.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 677.

THE 23d current I received from you by your writer the 400 rubles, in part of Shorine's debt to Robert Caning, as also the emperor's answers to my speech made unto him, and writings delivered you the 28th of February last; in which answer there is nothing mentioned, whether our merchants may have free commerce to Archangel and further into this country. Wherefore I desire you to let me have in writing, whether they may come free and with security to the said port and city, Colmegro, Vologda, Yearlslane, Mosco, and other parts of his majesty's dominions, as other strangers merchants do; and on what conditions our merchants shall commerce; for this is most necessary to know, that according to the answers I shall have from you, I may order those, that at present are in these countries, to dispose of themselves and their effects. I did verily believe, that that particular would not have been omitted in the answer I have read.

The business about the debts of English to Castles, and of them to English, was by the emperor at the beginning promised, that it should have a speedy end; and that his imperial majesty would give satisfaction of his proper; but it is near seven years since that affair hath been in agitation. There is yet no end made thereunto. Therefore I desire to know, when that business shall be finished; whereby I may give an account thereof at my return into England, where it will be expected from me.

I pray you to write the vayvode of Archangel, that the English imbarres there may be emptied of his majesty's corn, whereby the merchants may have their goods under covert, and not be exposed to rain and ill weather, as they were last year. Also to write him, that two bridges be made at the landing and lading places, as heretofore was the custom to do, the better to avoid any accident of fire, that may happen. Moreover to give the customer order, that our merchants may receive their dispatches, when they demand them, which was not done the last peace; by which means they were like to lose their passage for England.

I pray you let me have your answer with expedition, that I may depart for Archangel.

Sir,

Musco, June 26, 1655.

W. P.

The prince of Nassau to the states general.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 681.

YOUR high and mighty lordships agreeable letter of the 28th of the last month came safe to hand, with the original copy of the eternal regulation, by which the differences risen in Ommelands between the Eems and the Lauwers, through your high and mighty lordships wisdom, are decided, together with an act of amnesty in order thereunto. . . . The gentlemen, heritors, and the representatives of the said Ommelands, will for the future avoid the like disputes and dangerous differences, and will give your high mightinesses no further trouble in such like affairs, but behave themselves according to the aforefaid clear and firm regulation, to comply hereafter with the same, to live and to govern together in brotherly love and unity. And as to myself, I will regulate myself exactly to the same in all occurrences, according to the tenor of the said regulation, to fulfill the same at all times, as well in these as all other affairs that may happen, and thus to effect the well-meaning of your high mightinesses good intention.

Wherewith, &c.

Groningen, July 6,
1655. [N. S.]

High and mighty lords, &c.

(Sign'd)

WILLIAM FREDERICK, prince of Nassau, &c.

Col.

Col. Rob. Lilburne to *secretary* Thurloe.

SIR,

I Received yesterday his highnes commands concerning the giving a speedy account of A. D. 1655. the prisoners I have secured, which I intend to doe with all expedition I can; but as yet (by reason those troopes that were in Darbyshire and Cheshire came not soe soon as was expected) I have not an account of those two counties, but looke for them daily, and then (God willing) shall not faile. In the interim haveinge met with the lord John Bellaffes at Yorke, I have secured him, untill I know his highnes pleasure about him, for as I remember he was one prickt downe. I intreate your speedy answer herein, and shal be glad to know what you doe in generall with such kind of cattle, and to heare a little further of your good successe at Hispaniola, which my newes tell mee is possesst by generall Venables. If this might not be too great a trouble, it would be very acceptable, and much oblige

York, June 26, 1655.

Sir, your most humble servant,

ROBERT LILBURNE.

The commissioners of the treasury to the protector.

• To his highnes the lord protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

Application being made unto us the commissioners of your highnes's treasury by the water-bailiffs and conservators of the river of Severn, for the appointment of a steward in the place of the late steward deceased, we do humbly represent to your highnes, that both that and fundry officers of inferior natures, as stewards of courts, bailiffs of mannors, woodwards, and the like, which are of small value, and not so soon looked after as places of greater advantage, have anciently been and are so necessary to be continued for the due and orderly management of your highnes's revenue, that without them it will suffer damage; which offices, by reason of the limitation of our commission, we have not power to grant; and do therefore humbly offer it to your highnes consideration, whether you will please to direct, that addreses shall be made to your highnes for those and the like inferior places, or to give power to any other persons whom your highnes shall think fit to dispose them by grants to be passed in your highnes's name, as heretofore hath been accustomed.

Which we humbly submit to your highnes's pleasure.

June 26. 1655.

B. WHITELOCKE.
E. MOUNTAGU.
W. SYDENHAM.*To Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.*

Paris, July 7, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

YOUR father is still at Genitoy, whither I have sent your letter of the first of this month. The surintendants went from hence the day before yesterday to the court at Soissons. It is thought, my lord your father may come hither for two or three days in the mean time, but he faith not.

Here is no news from the camp before Landrecy, only the taking care of monsieur de la Feuillade. Some say he is killed. It happened, as he was going to the camp with fifteen or twenty horse, that he was set upon by a party of the enemies, who were stronger than they, and so was forced to yield after some dispute.

The prince of Condé hath been since sent unto for his release; but he sent word back again, that he could not send him in the condition he was in, being dead of his wounds.

It is thought that the town cannot hold out longer, than till the 15th or 20th of this month at the furthest.

A letter

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, July 7, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvii.
P. 685.

YOURS of the first instant I received. They wonder much here at all the prisoners you make in England : so let them do.

Of his highness's messengers gone to Turin I hear nothing ; some say they will be received honourably, others not at all ; but the last I believe not, though many will press hard for it.

Of our treaty I hear nothing at all lately ; there is some silence of it.

We fear not the Spaniards agreement with you much. It was much feared here that St. Quintin would be besieged by the prince. I must tell you truth in secret, our army is in a sad condition before Landrecy for want of provision, which the enemy streightens of all sides. The end of that enterprize is not apparent yet.

Prince Condé sent notice to the king to be gone from la Fere, &c. Of a general peace nothing since my former, nor else now known of news, &c.

Sir, yours, &c.

The Spanish ambassador in Holland to the states general.

Read the 7th of July, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxvii.
P. 695.

THE underwritten ambassador of Spain having understood by common report, not without a very great admiration, that the lords states general at the request of some receivers or officers, which they have established in the country of Outremeuse, had in some sort resolved to use retorsion upon the dukedom and country of Limburg, which he can hardly give credit unto, nor presume such an unreasonable proceeding from the ordinary equity of their high and mighty lordships : however he doth think it his duty to signify unto them in the name and behalf of the king his master, that such an attempt upon a country, which doth purely belong to his majesty, without any controversy or dispute, could not be suffered, nor otherwise taken, than for an act of hostility ; especially without having given any communication of the reason, which might have induced their high and mighty lordships to such a strange novelty, and much less requisite to justify a proceeding so evidently contrary to the peace, which is incompatible with such enterprizes and violences. Wherefore he doth desire their high and mighty lordships to recall, or at least suspend, this resolution (if any such hath been taken, which he hopes not) and all others, which may in the least alter the correspondence, which his majesty hath so devoutly preserved with this state ; and in case their high and mighty lordships have any reason to complain, that they would be pleased to let him know it by their lords their commissioners, to the end he may procure them such satisfaction as shall be just. And your high and mighty lordships have the greater reason to proceed with moderation, in regard the difference of the said country of Outremeuse is ready to be divided by the *Chambre mipartie*, to whom is referred the decision ; and that by such novelties and strange proceedings the course of justice would without doubt be interrupted and retarded.

GAMARRA.

*The states general to de Vries, the Dutch resident in Denmark.*Vol. xxvii.
P. 699.

WE have by occasion of several advices sent unto us from time to time by some of our ministers residing abroad in foreign parts, weighed, pondered, and considered what design upon the present extraordinary preparation of the Swedes might be expected ; likewise whether this state might be thereby interested ; and consequently taken notice, that out of all the said advices and other advertisements certainly can be gathered, that the design of the king of Sweden is intended to make himself master of the city and harbour of Dantzick ; likewise of the places and ports under the command of the duke of Brandenburg in Prussia, situated on the east sea ; and having likewise particularly considered the dangerous consequences, which may accrew thereby to the prejudice of the state, and the good inhabitants thereof, as well in regard of the navigation and commerce upon the east seas, and particularly upon the said harbours as otherwise. Wherefore we have thought fit, for the service of the country, to signify unto you hereby,

also to desire and require you most seriously, that you would endeavour to learn with as much dexterity and secrecy as is possible, whether the king of Denmark hath any or what knowledge and communication he may have of the said design, or otherwise of the Swedes, and in what manner the business is looked upon by him there, especially whether the king of Sweden, for the executing of his designs, doth expect any favour or assistance from the king of Denmark; and whether it would be in anywise taken ill by him, that we should contribute our assistance to put a stop to his designs; yea whether he would not be glad to second our intentions. Upon all which we expect your answer as soon as possible, and advice from time to time on all that passeth, for it doth very much concern us.

Hague, July 7, 1655. [N. S.]

A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.

Paris, July 7, 1655. [N. S.]

ALL the curates in this city have decreed in an assembly by them held, not to admit into the communion such as shall approach thereunto with patcht faces and powdered hair, nor those also that come with naked breasts, be they never of so great quality.

One of the said curates, as you have heard, went to court according to the chancellor's orders, having been referred there by the king unto his eminency. The said curate has refused to see him, having declared, that his archbishop, namely cardinal de Retz, having sent him the pope's bull to publish it, had expressly charged him to speak thereof only unto his majesty.

On St. Peter's and St. Paul's holiday, the curate of this last church caused cardinal de Retz arms to be put up there, giving him the title of archbishop of Paris; whereof the governor of the Bastille having had notice, he sent for the said curate, under pretence of visiting a sick body, to detain him prisoner; but this curate mistrusting the business, would not go, but sent his first vicar.

It is the ambassador of Savoy, who has published, that the grand seignior hath caused the English to be massacred, to be avenged of general Blake's enterprize, saying to have received letters thereof from Turin; but it is not believed, by reason the news thereof is written from no place.

The syndic and council of Geneva to the protector.

Tres haut & serenissime seigneur,

DANS le vif ressentiment, que nous avons des horribles persecutions & massacres, qui ont esté exercés contre nos freres des eglises reformées des Vallies de Piedmont, nous avons receu une singuliere consolation par la lettre, de laquelle il a pleu a vostre altesse serenissime nous honorer; en ce que nous voyons, que suivant sa pieté ordinaire, qu'elle fait esclatter entre ses autres vertus heroïques, & son grand zele a la conservation de la vraye religion, & de ceux, qu'en font profession, elle est non seulement touchée tres sensiblement de l'extreme calamité de ces eglises, mais aussi, qu'il luy plaist contribuer ses soins pour leur reſtabliſſement & leur faire sentir abondamment les effets de sa beneficence; ce que nous donne ſubject d'adorer les reſſorts merveilleux de la providence de Dieu, & son infinie bonté envers les ſiens, qui les abbatant d'une main, & les relevant de l'autre, a ſuscité vostre altesse serenissime en ces temps calamiteux pour la deſſeſſe des pauvres fidelles persecutes par les ennemis de la verité. Ceste ſaincte & Chriſtien generoſité, que vostre Altesse fait paroistre a la protection des membres du ſeigneur Jeſus, luy a non ſeulement merité & luy peut faire porter avec juſtice le titre glorieux de protecteur & deſenſeur de la vraye eglise, & luy acquerir la gloire immortelle; mais aussi attirera ſur vostre altesse serenissime les plus precieuses benedictiones du ciel & de la terre par les prieres de tout ce corps myſtic en general, & de tous ſes membres en particulier. Comme par une ſinguliere grace de Dieu nous ſommes de ce nombre, & de ceux qui ont ſentis les effets de l'honneur & de la bienveuillance de vostre altesse serenissime, dont nous oſons encore eſperer la continuation de ſa bonté pour l'advenir, nous ne ceſſerons nous jamais de preſenter nos tres humbles & ardentes ſupplications a Dieu pour la proſperité & conſervation de vostre altesse, & l'heureux ſucces de ſes entrepriſes a la gloire de Dieu,

VOL. III.

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&

A. D. 1655. & au repos de son eglise. Nous y sommes obligés par toutes sortes de considerations & de nouveau par l'honneur, qu'il a pleu a vostre altesse serenissime nous faire de prendre confiance en nous, & de nous commettre l'exécution de son dessein pour la subvention de nous pauvres freres desoles, par l'envoy & distribution de deux mille livres d'Angleterre, qui'l luy a pleu ordonner pour fournir a les plus pressantes necessités: ce que nous ferons par les voyes les plus seures & promptes, qui ont desja esté employées pour l'envoy & distribution des collectes faites icy & en Suisse, & y apporterons tout le soin & diligence possibles pour tesmoigner a vostre altesse serenissime nos respects, & que nous sommes,

Tres haut & serenissime seigneur,

De vostre altesse serenissime tres humbles serviteurs,

Ce June 27, 1655.

Les syndics & conseil de Geneve,

Du. Four.

Major general Berry to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 723.

I HAVE, according to your command, sent an account of what I have done in these countyes. If it fall short of what you expect, I have onely this to say, the countyes are large, and my helpers very few; but I hope I have left nothing undone, but what may be done when you please. The hearts of the enemy are fallen, and a word commands them; and all would be well here, had we a few honest men to beare rule, and lead the people. Our ministers are bad, our magistrates idle, and the people all asleepe; only these present actings have a little awakened. But I shall not presume to trouble you any further; but humbly professe, that I am

Your highnes most obedient servant to my power,

Lincoln, June
27, 1655.

JA BERRY.

Captain Thompson goes on to gett up his troope, but the other is not yet disposed of. We waite your pleasure concerning mr. Fines; if not he, I thinke Yarbarrough would be fitt.

Extract out of the register of the resolutions of the lords states general.

Jovis, July 8, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxvii.
p. 727.

THE lord pensionary de Witt have having communicated a letter to the assembly from the lord embassador Boreel, writ to him from Paris, dated the second of this month, containing amongst the rest the pretences of the three millions, anno 1625, disbursd for this state, which France will now impute in part against some liquidated sums, which some particular subjects of their high and mighty lords must have of the king himself; whereupon being debated, it is resolved, that there shall be writ to the said lord embassador, that in case he hear any thing further concerning the said pretences, that he should debate the business with those arguments and reasons, wherewith he was formerly supplied from hence, and such others as he shall think fit to make use of.

At a court held at the house of mr. William Whitaker on June 28, 1655.

Present

Edward Digges, esq; governor.

Dissenting

Colonel George Ludlow,
Colonel Thomas Petus,
Lieutenant colonel Bridges Freeman,
Colonel William Taylor,
Colonel William Bernard,

Colonel Edward Hill,
Lieutenant colonel Samuel Matthews,
Captain Henry Percy,
Major William Gooche,

V. xliii. p. 105.

THIS day a letter directed to Richard Bennet, esq; governor of Virginia, from his highness the lord protector, bearing date the 12th of January 1654, being read, it is

is the opinion of the court, that the honourable Edward Digges, esq; governor, do draw up an answer of the said letter to his highness the lord protector, and intimate unto his highness, that this country did never intermeddle nor own the business, which hath happened between those men of Severn and my lord Baltimore his officers; but what hath been acted therein was by the commissioners Richard Bennet, esq; and colonel William Claiborne, esq; authorised by the parliament, and without the consent of the council or assembly of Virginia. And further, that since one of the said commissioners, Richard Bennet, esq; is now in England employed as agent for Virginia, and is there present to answer to this particular business, acted by him as by commission aforesaid, and that the countenancing of either party may be the occasion of further blood-shed:

This court doth think fit not to intermeddle in this business any further, until his highness the lord protector shall be more fully informed in the proceedings, (which in all likelihood will be made appear to him by the aforesaid Richard Bennet, esq; this instant year,) and shall signify what his pleasure shall be therein to his country, unto which we shall (as in duty bound) with all obedience submit.

Vera copia exaratur,

per me EDWARD DIGGES.

This is a true copy, as it come to me from mr. Digges, Richard Bennet.

To the worshipfull Henry Scobell, esq; clerk of the council of the state.

Middelfex, Martin's in the Fields.

THESE are to certify you, that there hath been collected in the parish of Martin's Vol. xxvii. in the Fields in the county of Middlefex, for relief of the persecuted protestants P. 745. within the dominions of the duke of Savoy, the sum of three hundred and twenty five pounds four shillings and four pence, which said sum was paid in by us the minister and church-wardens of the same parish to the lord mayor of the city of London, that now is, and to alderman Viner, the appointed receivers of the same, the 25th of this instant. Witness our hands the 28th day of June 1655.

GABRIEL SANGAR, minister.

THOMAS BARKER, } Church-wardens.
JOHN TONGUE, }

A letter of intelligence from mr. Manning.

Cologne, [July 8, 1655. N. S.]

SIR,

THIS day being the 8th of July 1655, are come letters from the king of Sweden, the Vol. xxvii. marquis of Brandenburg, and general Wrangel to Charles Stuart. None knows P. 749. the contents but Charles Stuart. He is very jocund on the receipt of them. These, as I said, are affectionately his friends: what they mean you shall in due time know.

Also came letters from prince Rupert, that give advice, that Bardy, the duke of Modena's agent, was come to him, and had removed all doubts, which he made of not going that journey, so that now in honour he must go. He offered the lord Gerard to be his lieutenant general, Craven to be general of his ordnance, and Masséy to be his lieutenant general of them. This is very private here. Much hopes Charles Stuart hath from the king of Swedes, as to have foreign forces. Major James Halsey, who came with Wilmot, he is about 35 years of age, round face, in short hair, or a perriwig, and a round man, with one of Ascam's murtherers, who went in Spain by the name of Arnet a Scot, but an Englishman, and was the younger Halsey's servant, about 33 years of age, lame of the one hand, his hair hanging strait, with the messenger I mentioned in my last, went tuesday evening last for England. I could wish I had a cypher with the governor of Dover, for these things. I can assure you, that murdering of the protector is still endeavoured for all your severe proceedings; and the actors have considerable sums of money in hand to manage it.

One captain Philip Curtis is come this day from England hither. Let Lambert have a care of himself, for it is whispered here, that he goes often to Wimbleton slenderly guarded. I am entirely yours.

I do

A. D. 1655. I do not hear that you have questioned or imprisoned the lords of Hertford, Seymour, Mohun, Maynard, Peters, Row, Carbury, Strafford, colonel John Russell, and many others, whom I have named to you, and were deeply engaged. Musgrave was at first one of the council in London. Neither one colonel John Covent, Samuel Sandys, Sherington Talbot, the lord Coventry, his sons and brother William Coventry, and the lord of Shrewsbury. Middleton is designed to be sent into Sweden.

Werden, Stephens, doctor Lloyd, one of Charles Stuart's chaplains, and Lovel the duke of Gloucester's tutor now in England, all employed hence. I sent you word last week where Wilmot's lady resides. The messenger may be found.

An intercepted letter.

Thursday, January 28, [1655.]

My dearly loved and honored freind,

Vol. xxvii.
P. 757.

WHEN I have the happinesse to heare next from you, I hope I shall heare you have received the bill for 10 l. which was to be payd you upon sight by mr. Wildgoose. As yet your freind mr. Savage and his brother are in *statu quo*; but every sunday waite their change. It is very much feared here, the businesse of Savoy is nothing as it has been first represented; and if it had not been for doctor Duncan's letter and larger relation, and the deane's smart censure in briebe, which were far and neere communicated, the massacre would have gained little beleefe from those of our principles; and however it begins now much to coole, by reason of some printed relations among us (that tast indeed of a Romish penn) which hugely heighten the occasion, and lessen the fact.

If you will pardon the bulke of sending, I will give you here a preface, which an acquaintance of mine made to a publique sermon of his the sunday after the humiliation; as it was taken in short hand from him, which they say has done the exercise of the liturgy some good at Whitehall.

But I have a courtesey to begg from you, which if you can do shall be requited with a very choyce booke from hence: it is a few choyce cutts of the old and new testament to be bound in a large folio bible of the Roman letter. Wee have newly come abroad the history of the late king, written by mr. L'Estrange; and to morrow comes out a new piece of doctor Taylor, both which shall be sent you with the soonest to requite your cutts.

I have not of late weekes nor monthes seen any of your freinds. The search and taking up of lords, gentry, and even meaner persons, continues every night and day, which makes us all stand amazed; and some are not afraid to whisper it the second part of Piedmont.

I stirr little abroade, and it was brought me an hower since, that the protector had feasted this day all the high sheriffes of England and the lord mayor of London; but another is come to me just now, and assures me, it was not this day, but wil be for certaine to morrow. Then we shall know our doome.

The times are so ticklish, that I take little delight in writing letters, even where they are much due. If therefore a postscript may not passe for an incivility, present I pray my humble service with this following to mr. D^r Cos. *

* Cosins.

REVEREND SIR,

I GIVE you an exercise for your goodnesse, and a subject for your pardon, while I thus crowd up my respects to you in so narrow a margin; but I cannot hold presenting you with my humblest thanks for the kind remembrance of love you were pleased to send me by your sweete daughter. Sir, I wish I knew what bookes might be acceptable unto you from hence, and I should gladly sometimes find you a recreation in them. I suppose you may have received the *Monasticon Anglicanum*. There is a little new piece of doctor Jer. Taylor's, which covets to kisse your hands, and 'tis of the printer's presenting, one in Ivy-lane, who ventures at all things, and who, it seemes, has bought the copy of your most usefull devotions, which he is now reprinting in a large duodecimo; and which he would gladly should waite at least a moneth, in hopes that when you heare of this good worke (indeed it is so) you will promote it soe farr, as to send him some additionall prayers, or whatsoever other supplement.

June 28, styl. vet.

I beg your pardon for this boldnesse, and am,
reverend sir, your devoted servant that honours you,
G. W.

The superscription,

*A monsieur monsieur George à Leon. Il faut le laisser
chez monsieur la Fontaine aux trois burfes Rue
St. Honore à Paris.*

Nieuport, *the Dutch ambassador in England, to the states general.*

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

MY lords, since the sending of my last, I am informed, that the town of St. Domingo, A. D. 1655. in the island of Hispaniola, was taken by the English not on the 28th of May, but on the 28th of April, the gentleman who communicated that news to me having named one month for the other. I have heard further, that near 500 Frenchmen of the island of St. Christopher did join the English with some ships, in the said expedition, and that one of those small vessels had brought the said news to the island of St. Christopher. It is also believed for truth, that the fleet under the admiral Blake is arrived from the Mediterranean in the road of Cadiz, having made a treaty with those of Tripoli and Algiers; and not only redeemed in the last place the protestant slaves, but also above 40 Netherlanders. I am told by a person, who has pretty good knowledge of the affairs that happen here, that a large quantity of provisions, ammunition, and other necessaries, are sent to the said fleet, so that they conclude therefrom, that the said fleet is not to come home, but shall actually keep and serve abroad, whilst the other fleets carry on the designs against the Spanish West Indies. Yesterday I was informed, that the 18 ships, which are laden with men and all sorts of necessaries to assist the fleet under admiral Pen, are sailed the beginning of this week under the command of major general Sedgewicke. Some days ago arrived here two ships out of the East Indies, one called the Christopher, belonging to the East India company, and the other a frigate, called the Allum, fitted out by some private persons; the latter is a small vessel, but as I hear much richer laden than the other, having on board a vast many silks and other stuffs; a third ship, called the Jonathan, fitted out likewise by private persons, and not by the company, is sailed directly for Leghorn, to sell there her cargo, which, as they tell me, is not very well liked here, notwithstanding the owners offer to pay the duties and customs for the same. The money, which is gathered here for the persecuted Waldenses in Piedmont, is daily sent up hither out of the respective provinces, and they say, that a considerable sum will be brought together, since this nation in general is very much concerned for those poor wretches. The day before yesterday the judges were nominated to hold the assizes in the circuits of the several provinces. In and about this city they have secured this week my lord Coventry, my lord John, the son of the marquis of Winchester, my lords Maynard, Petre, and Lucas, who are all imprisoned in separate places; a great many other gentlemen that were of the king's party, but of a lesser quality, are likewise confined in the respective provinces, in their houses or other places. The gentleman, who has the commission to carry the ratification to Sweden, is not yet set out. And the Swedish minister here looks out for a house for the extraordinary ambassador of that crown, but will take it no longer than for three months. Mr. Thurloe, since his return from Hampton Court, finds himself indisposed, and has let blood again to day; so that I have not been able to speak with him these two days.

Wherewith, &c.

Westminster, July 2,
1655. [N. S.]

High and mighty lords, &c.

(Sign'd)

W. NIEUPORT.

Just now is delivered to me by mr. Meadows the instrument of ratification of the lord protector of the last agreement touching the regulation of the remaining undecided pretensions; but whereas the same is folded in too large a form to be sent conveniently by the post, and some officers being here, in the service of your high mightinesses, that are ready to go over next week, I intend to send the same by one of them.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

July 3, 1655. [N. S.]

THIS morning had audience the general of the ships that came this time from the East Indies. He did speak of a great advantage, which the Hollanders have had upon the Portuguese, having destroyed them three-score ships, whereof 40 were cast away upon the shore, and the rest burnt, &c. saith that China, the most part of it, is still under

VOL. III.

7 M

the

A. D. 1655. the Tartars; and withall that there is a king, who is turned a Christian, and had sent to the pope; and that that king doth still maintain himself. Likewise mr. Van Dam, advocate of the East India company, having been in England, is returned, and hath exhibited unto the assembly of the states general the ratification of the protector upon the agreement made concerning the differences of the East India companies. In regard that those of Embden are not yet come to exhibit towards the 1st of July in their accounts, according to the resolution of the 28th of April, they have resolved to write unto them again, summoning them to appear here; otherwise they will fall upon the business in their absence, with those of the states their adversaries. There hath been a great new complaint against those of Overysfel, for not sending somebody to the *Chambre mipartie*; but the mischief is, that Deventer doth pretend, that the turn (since the lord of Sallick hath been on the behalf of the nobility) doth belong unto Deventer; and on the contrary those of the other quarters do pretend, that the turn is still in them, in regard that the lord of Sallick was never in the employment. The lord Veth did propose, that provisionally they ought to appoint mr. Vrierfen (although one of Friezland, but yet an old civilian) to officiate in the place of him of Overysfel; but it had no success. The lords Haerfolte, Vrierfen, and Breda, commissioners of Overysfel, having been in Zealand, are come back, having obtained a resolution almost as they demanded it by their proposition; which is printed and publickly sold.

These of Goes have proposed to the assembly of Zealand by express orders of their principals, that for pregnant reasons Zealand ought to choose the prince of Orange at present for stadtholder, and prince William, during his minority, to exercise the charge. They did refer it to the next meeting, the other members not being instructed about it; and in all likelihood (if the respect of the protector doth not withhold them) they will make that election; for at Middleburgh itself the common sort of people doth begin to be very hot for that election; and the magistrates dare not oppose them.

The regulation of the Omlanders hath been again debated, but not resolved on; and there are new commissioners come from the Omlanders, namely, the lords Tamminga, Ripperda, and Wychel. They will have audience on Monday. They are of the strongest party, with whom prince William doth hold.

July 5, 1655.

The lord Wyman, plenipotentiary of the elector of Brandenburg, hath had audience. Having run through the *instrumentum fœderis* between this state and the said elector, and upon every thing or article contrary or suspected by him, he said what must be, or what he had to say, and especially concerning the treaty of Xanten, he did very much contradict. In all likelihood the provinces will see it, and provisionally it will be put into the hands of commissioners appointed for the affairs of Brandenburg; and those of Holland will delay him, till their assembly be together. This afternoon here arrived out of England the lord de Bye, resident for Poland, who in all likelihood will also interpose in this business. Those of Zealand have proposed, that they are of opinion, that a day of prayer ought to be observed for the Vaudois, and do consent for a collection to be made for them.

They do still remain resolved to send a publick minister to reside in Switzerland, who shall go in his passage to speak with the Duke of Savoy; and they have appointed one out of each province to draw up his instructions. The son of the lord Zuylichem is likely to have this employment. From Zealand are likewise come commissioners on the behalf of the directors for safe conduct-money erected during the war with England. And in regard that trade was lower than in any other part; so likewise Zealand was more indebted than any other province, and knows not how to get out of their debts than by the continuation of the said safe conduct-money; which Holland is very much against, saying, that that is capable to destroy all trade. In short Holland and Zealand will have many a dispute about it.

In the business and difference of the Omlandes nothing is yet concluded. It seems it is delayed till the assembly of the states of Holland. The lord de Bye is returned without any answer, and without having taken his personal leave of the protector, having only a single pass.

July 6.

This morning was most of it spent in the business of the Omlandes. The one party doth begin to decline almost altogether the decision, yea of the states generall, being willing to maintain a kind of league, which hath been observed there hitherto, speaking likewise of delaying the business.

The lord de Bye saith, he could not prevail to obtain an answer upon his proposition tending to incite the protector against the Muscovites; that seeing himself delayed, he thought

thought it best to signify to mr. Thurloe, that he did intend to make a voyage into A. D. 1655. Holland, and that he would return again afterwards. So that he came away with a pass signed on the top, *Oliver P.* without any subscription, either by the protector or secretary, or sealed. The lord Nieupoort (with whom he communicated all his business) advised him (to render himself agreeable) to invite the protector to the mediation; but he told him, that he had express order not to invite him, yea to decline him. He saith, that the said Nieupoort is one of the intimates of the protector; that the treaty with France is not yet signed; but that France did shew themselves more inclined than England; and that it was not true, that France had recalled their ambassador; that on the contrary, France did expect with a great desire the assault, which Pen and Venable would make upon the islands of the West Indies belonging to the king of Spain; and that there was a rumor, that Hispaniola should be taken already.

The lord Wyman hath exhibited his observations upon the alliance with Brandenburg.

July 7.

This morning there was a great deal of stir about the lord Henry de la Capell, being first in the commission of the treaty of alliance with the elector of Brandenburg.

Those of Holland have produced a resolution of the year 1624, by which it is said, whosoever is in the service or oath of a foreigner, is not capable to appear here in the states general. Now it is so, that the said lord de la Capell, having some estate in the country of Cleve, did appear in the assembly of the states of Cleve. Ergo, that he ought to absent himself out of the assembly of the states general; and chiefly or at least that he ought not to have accepted of the commission to treat upon the alliance with Brandenburg. Whereupon there hath been a great dispute. The lord de Capell did confess, that he was one of the states of Cleve; but said, that he never gave his oath to the elector; and the most part of the provinces were for allowing of him, but Holland said, that they could not enter then upon any such business with him; and by this means this will serve to retard and delay the treaty with Brandenburg.

The business of the Omlandes hath been debated, and they did seriously endeavour to accommodate the same, or at least to resolve upon it; so that I believe there will be some final resolution taken in it.

July 8.

Yesterday all the afternoon till midnight there was a particular meeting about the differences of the Omlandes, where the lord pensionary de Wit did behave himself most gallantly to dispose the parties to a submission; and that submission being passed, they did labour so well, that they did conclude and pronounce a regulation, according to the project formerly made; and not to lose any time, they would not give up till all was writ fair, and signed by all the commissioners and interested; which being done, the said lord pensionary was so generous (although it be very well known, that neither he nor any other of the commissioners would not receive the least treat of wine in recompence) as to invite all the company, as well of the commissioners, as of the states general and the Omlandes, being at least 20 or 30 persons, to dinner; so that in lieu of getting any thing, he will spend 30 or 40 pound upon them, refuting several who did discourse, that the Hollanders did only foment the division in the provinces. They have also caused the commissioners to sign an act of oblivion.

The commissioners of the states of East Friesland have this morning proposed a serious complaint, how that those of Embden did still forbear coming hither; in the mean time they are now come, and will fall to work.

They were resolved to write to the lord Frise resident in the Sound, to the end to represent to the king of Denmark the present state and condition of the preparations of the Swedes; and to sound him, whether he would not give his helping hand to put all things in a condition to prevent any alteration in the Baltick Sea; but for fear of giving offence, they thought fit to forbear yet a while, to stay and see where the Swedish design will fall.

July 9, 1655.

Those of Zealand have proposed, how in their last assembly of the states of Middleburgh, the lords Haerfolte, Vriesen, and Breda, commissioners of the states of Overysse, did address themselves, making complaint how that those of Deventer and Twent did separate and keep themselves so from the body of the states of Overysse, declaring the reasons, and requiring the aid and interposition of the other provinces, and especially that of Zealand, that thereupon the states of Zealand did declare themselves inclined and ready to endeavour for the said consolidation, desiring that the states general would declare themselves

A. D. 1655. selves likewise. Thereupon those of Holland said, that the next week there should be a meeting of their principals, and that in the mean time they desired, that the same might be suspended.

The lord Capell doth still scruple to be turned out of his commission for the treaty with Brandenburg, believing that it is against his reputation. But they have propounded an expedient under hand, that instead of managing that treaty by one of every province, it shall be only put into the hand of three or four commissioners, and by this means the lord de la Capell may be easily discharged without any disreputation.

An intercepted letter.

DEAR SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 463.

I HAVE not failed to write to you, however letters may have miscarried, nor shall not so long as I am able. Tell me, whether I shall send to you, which I hope you will be careful of; but I perceive the fear of our breaking with Spain makes you have many troublesome journeys to get in your debts, which you do very wisely; for I am confident that you know well enough, that your credit here will not be charged with a small sum, and the longer it is of doing the worse, for interest runneth high; besides those of your creditors, that are content to have patience, confiding in your honesty, may in time with much tampering be brought to think, it will be their best course to join with those inconscionable people, that persecute you, lest they lose all. But I need not give you counsel or caution. I shall only tell you the news we have here, general Venables hath taken Hispaniola and St. Domingo.

Mr. Adland is now in town, and would gladly know, what you would have done with your goods, which are in his hands, if my master knew how you would have them disposed; but you have not given any directions since your journey. Mr. Holland is a very honest man, but timorous as to the trade you are upon.

June 29, 1655.

To mr. Henry Hunford.

LEO. WILLYAMS.

The governor of Virginia to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 783.

HAVEING received your letter, a copie whereof this bearer is to present unto your highness, I thought it my duty immediately to call the council, to advise what ought to be concluded in reference to your commands; and accordingly I the present governor, with the rest of the council, doe humbly signifie to your highness, that this countrey of Virginia did never intermeddle, or owne the buisness, which hath lately happened betwene those men of Severne, and my lord Baltimore his officers in Maryland; but what hath beene acted therein was by Richard Bennett and collonel William Claiborn, esqrs; commissioners authorized by the parliament, and without the consent of the council, or assembly of Virginia; and that the said mr. Bennett one of the commissioners is now in England, imployed as agent for Virginia, and ready to answer this particular buisness acted by him, as by commission aforesaid; and wee further humbly conceive, that the countenancing of either party might occasion more blood shed, to prevent which we thought it not fit to interest ourselves in the businesse, untill your highness should be more fully informed in all the proceedings, which we doubt not will effectually be performed by the said mr. Bennett this instant year. Wee therefore hope to have your highness's pleasure herein further signified to this countrey, unto which we shall (as in duty bound) with all obedience submit,

Virginia, June
29, 1655.

Your highness most humble and obedient servant,

E. DIGGES.

A letter of intelligence.

WORTHY SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 805.

TAndem fit sirculus arbor. I have donn your buisnes in manner and forme, as I undertooke it, and your master desired. There wants nothing but security to be given for the payment of the monye; wherefore I desire you to take such order with mr. Longland,

as he may assure and receive satisfaction, and I will bring him, if he thinks fitt, unto the party himselfe. I agreed for neither a pennie more or lesse then what I nominated to you in your owne chamber; but had I not happily carryed the buisnes as I did, both your buisnes and my selfe had miscarryed in a manner that had bin irreparable; for there was notice given of my coming to this towne in a very scurvy manner, as to the old gentleman; others judged better of it, some the best that could be imagined. Wherefore fearing the worst, I kept my selfe a month in towne privatly, before any living soule knew of my being heer, and so I did my buisnes with the party, by whose meanes I got the length of the old gentleman's foot, before such time as any of his younger children knew I was in towne, and then all was well construed in the better sence. The precious powder, which you bestowed upon me for such a rarity, doth neither well dry, nor benefitt my hayr, but inclines it to a scurvie colour. I pray send me that, which will doe me some service. You can expect no further newes at this present till security be given; and then I beleeeve you will heere that, which will exceed your expectation, and give you full contentment and satisfaction. There is heer lately come to towne one Dr. Bayly, and mr. Mettam, who hath translated his booke for him into Italian; and there is great talke of his presenting the sayd booke unto the pope; and indeed there is great commendations given heer in Rome of the sayd booke. I have nothing more to add, but to desire you to take order for my supply of maintenance, and if in case your minde should alter from that which I have effected, that you would send me a sufficient supply of mony for me to returne for England. This is all for the present, that can be sayd by your humble servant to command,

THOMAS BAGNALL.

Rome, July 10, 1655. [N. S.]

Servien to Bordeaux, *the French ambassador in England.*

Turin, July 10, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

THE post coming yesterday from Rome, brought me a letter from M. de Lionne, who writt me word, that you desired to be informed by me of the business of the Vallies of Piedmont; in pursuance whereof I must tell you, my lord, that I have endeavoured to satisfy you beforehand by a letter, which I directed a fortnight since to monsieur de Brienne for you; and to the end that you may be the more fully instructed, I here inclosed send you a copy of the declaration, which the duke of Savoy hath set forth. I do likewise send you a copy of the letter, which I wrote to the E. of Brienne, which possibly may stand you in stead to answer to that, which may be said in England upon the relation, which mr. Morland, who is still here, may send over, or make at his return. If I can get a copy of the justifications, which will be given him by the ministers of Savoy, I will send you likewise a copy; as there is no ill, which doth not produce some good, this trouble affording me occasion of this correspondence, doth likewise give me that to assure you of the high esteem for your person, with whom I have the honour to be yours, &c.

Avaugour, *the French ambassador in Sweden, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.*

Stockholm, July 10, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

NOW at last is the negotiation begun between Sweden and Poland; and if the end do answer the beginning, there is some cause to hope, that it will not be unhappy; at least if the honours and civilities, which are shewn to the ambassadors of Poland at their arrival, if the sweetness and moderation of the first conference on both sides, and if the choice of commissioners may be any good omen. They made their entry on monday the 5th of this month, after they had been brought from the place, where they had left their ship, in a galliot of the king's, accompanied with a great many of the nobility here, and by two senators. At their entrance the citizens in arms, and all the troops that were here, were in battle array, in a place where their lodging was prepared for them, most richly furnished; where they likewise found the cloth laid, and good cheer. This embassy however doth not alter the resolution of the king to depart; yea it doth rather seem to advance it. He doth expect to go aboard the fleet to morrow, and there expect a wind. There is such hastning away, my time to day is altogether taken up in taking

VOL. III.

7 N

leave

A. D. 1655. *W* leave of those that go away to morrow, that I have hardly time to do the duty of corresponding. Yet I must not leave you, my lord, before I have told you, that after their publick audience, wherein they did very much satisfy all the court, they have had a conference with the commissioners, which the king sent them the same day, to hear their propositions; where every one being called upon to speak the first, and the one not daring to demand, and the other not daring to offer, it is yet in dispute, who shall break the ice. And in regard the said ambassadors have a great desire to begin the work, and to make a speedy conclusion, they have proposed to the Swedish commissioners, that it would be requisite to have, if not a mediator, since the court doth declare not to admit of one, at least some third body, as an interpositor, to cause the parties to explain themselves, and to moderate that, which might be too rough in treating face to face. And I have been proposed by them, as having the honour of being the minister of a great king. This the Swedish commissioners have taken *ad referendum*; upon which their answer is expected to proceed in the treaty, and to bring it to a conclusion. Thus far, my lord, they are come; from whence it is not very easy to foresee what will succeed: all that I can tell you is, that in case this peace be made, it will turn this great army both by sea and land another way; it being certain, that Sweden will not rest with these considerable forces on foot. The states of this kingdom have desired, that the king would take a new oath, not to suffer any Calvinists in his dominions, and not to admit of any henceforward into offices, but those that are of the Lutheran religion. We think my lord protector should likewise inform himself of this rigor against those of his confession, as of that, which happened in Savoy against the Vaudois.

I prepare to follow the court. It were to be wisht, they would defer their departure for some days, or that the ambassadors would resolve to pass with the king to treat in the first convenient place, if he cannot be stayd any longer here at present; which I do very much endeavour to bring about.

Attorney general Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 815.

I Make bold to acquaint you with what happened at the Rolles this afternoone, where were 14 causes appointed to be heard, and the clyents and counsell attended, and the master of the Rolles to be there, untill past fower of the clock, waitinge if the master of the court would come, that soe he might proceede in the hearinge of them; but none came, and soe was necessitated to rise without giveinge proceedings unto them; which I beleieve hath been the first time that he did it. He doth, for any thinge I perceive in the way of the justice of the court, observe the ordinances, and gives dispatche to all matters, that come before him, which by the regulation are directed to be done by him; which is a very greate ease to the people. If some course might be taken by some intimation, that they might attend according to the duty of their places, that suitors might not be disappointed in their expectation of justice, it would be worthy of your care in it; for as matters nowe stand, the whole course of justice, as to what concernes the masters, and in what they are to intermeddle, is totally obstructed. I begge your pardon for this trouble. Wishinge you all health, I signe my selfe,

June 30, 1655.

Sir, your most humble servant,

EDM. PRIDEAUX.

General Venables to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

Vol. xxvi.
p. 459.

Generall Pen, the army haveing moved him in that perticuler, hath left a squadron of the best sayling frigatts to ply to and againe upon these coasts, to seek for prize, or doe any other service against the enemy, as providence shall direct; and the better to enable them to stay, hath drawne out of the slower saylers a proportion of victualls to put into them; and he being to returne for England with the latter, wee could doe noe less than take this opportunitie of humbly praying your highnes, to give him a hearing in our behalfe concerning our great wants of bread, brandy, smyths and carpenters tooles, with a new squadron of shippes, and other necessaryes; whereof a speedy supply will preserve the lives of many, and enable the rest to carry on your highnes service more vigourously; which is all desired by, my lord, your highnes most humble unworthy servant,

R. VENABLES.

MAY

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

THIS letter being written and signed at towne by generall Venables, in the absence of my selfe, who was dispatching your other affaires here, I held it my duty, to let your highnesse understand, that it was the resolution of your commissioners, before any such motion came from the army (the army intending no further attempt at present) to send home the fleet, that now comes, being for the most part heavy saylers; that the frigats, which remaine behind, by taking out of their stores may bee in a capacity to stay; otherwise they would speedily, through want of victualls have been necessitated to returne altogether: which would have been very prejudiciall to your service.

A. D. 1655.

GREGORY BUTLER.

President Viole to Barriere.

Brussels, July 11, [1655. N. S.]

SIR,

I Have received your letter of the 2d. Landrecy is still vigorously besieged. The enemy doth hasten all that they can, to make themselves masters of it, they having want of provisions, all the passages being beset by our forces, so that no provisions can be brought into their camp.

47 de 96 a conseillé 48 de se retirer, & luy a baillé, par escript, pour sa discharge sur l'avis qu'il a eu, que 48 luy vouloit faire un insult, & le faire assassiner.

Ce que vous me mandez de 48 ait desja esté fait tant des fois, que je n'en espere rien de bon, & cela ne se fait, que pour baster l'affaire.

41 part dimanche, mais il se promenera par la Flandre quelque temps.

Mr. W. Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

MY last to your honour was the 10th of Maye, which was a little addition to a duplicate of my former of 18th April, sent under covert to the Russia company. Since my last I have not bine wanting to solicit this chancellour of th' embassador's office, Almas Juaniuch, by my letters and else, for my departure to Archangell, giving him to understand, that I had advise from England, that shippes would departe from thence bound to that porte sooner then they did former yeers, and that it was requisite I should bee there at their arrivall; that my staye here, and not permitting me to departe the middle of March last in winter waye to Riga, hath prooved very prejudiciall to his highnesse lord protector's affayres. But al the answers I could have was, that untill order did come from th' emperor, I could not have my dispatch and departe.

Vol. xxviii.
p. 21.

The 17th of the last moneth came a poste from th' emperor to these lords, and chancellor of th' embassador's office, that have the goverment in his absence; for the daye following hee sent mee my prestave, to advertise mee to bee ready to goe to him the next morning, as I did; where, after some few compliments, he told me, that the priveledges granted by these emperors to the Englishe merchants was only to twenty three persones; then he showed mee their names, and tolde mee, that except two or three of them, the rest dyed many yeares past, and whilst they lived had noe trade to Archangell, and not to their factors and servants; notwithstanding under the notion of the 23 nominated, hundreds have traded, and defrauded th' emperour of his customes for many years, which amounts to many thousands of rebles, for that not any of those that of yeares past, and now doe traffike to Archangell, have any right to the priveleges granted the twenty three.

That the now pretended company of Russia merchants in England have bin, and are still, cause, that many other Englishe merchants, that would traffike to Archangell, and paye th' emperour his customes, have bine, and are still soly and wholly hindred by that company; but if all the merchants, that are in England, would each of them give a summe of money to sayed pretended company, they should bee admitted into that society, and traffike under the names of the twenty three nominated in th' emperor's priveleges, and that to his majestie's damage.

That the Englishe merchants and factors, that lived in this country in former yeeres, and enjoyed the priveleges granted by the emperour (though noe right unto them) defrauded his majestie of his customes, not only of their owne merchandizes, but alsoe by dispeeding in their names, strangers and Russes goods, by which those Englishe men got great estates,

A. D. 1655. and more by such frauds then by their owne adventures, and commissions out of England, and this proved in the embassador's office in the time and presence of mr. Symon Digby agent.

That the Englishe merchants nominated in the priveleges were by them bound to bring their cloth and other goods, good and warrantable commodities; but contrary to it, their cloth hath bine and is stretcht in length and breadth, and soe adulterated, that the garments made of it without wetting the cloth are spoyled, and in wetting it the shrinking is more then a third parte.

The Englishe company by the priveleges were forbid to bring into this country prohibited commodities; yet did they bring in tobacco and others to th' emperor's and his subjects damage.

By the priveleges granted the Englishe company, they were obliged to sell to his majestie such goods as hee would have for his owne use, at the prises they cost in England; notwithstanding they made his majestie to paye excessive prises for them, and 20 per cent. more then hee payd to the Hollanders at same tyme, for like spetie of goods, and better conditioned then those had of the Englishe.

And for good services the company pretend to have done the emperor and his subjects, when that a want of corne was here; in requitall of that his majestie caused to bee solde the Englishe, on tyme when they wanted corne, at a doller a measure, when others payed three dollers.

That the particulers above narrated were the causes, that the Englishe were sent away from Mosco, and prohibited to come noe further then Archangell.

To the premises I answered; that if the Englishe company of merchants trading to these partes had acted as the chancellor had fayed, I wondred that his majestie and ministers had bine soe many yeares, and not till now made any complaynt; and if any of the company had bine fownd faulty of what they are now accused, his majestie might have punished the delinquents when fownd in fault, and it would not have bine ill taken in England, or at least to have made known into England the persones, and the fauts committed by them, and justice should have bine done there.

I then desired the chancellor, that an end might bee made to those accounts of debts betwixt Englishe and Russes, which were now in his office, and had bine these seaven yeares in agitation.

That his imperial majestie would bee pleased to make a firme and irrevocable decree, that hereafter noe Englishman should bee lyable for another Englishmans debt, except were bound for it: hee promised mee, that both my demands should be accomplished; and with that assured mee to send mee my dispatch within two or three dayes.

It is very well knowen, that all the above denoted sayings of the chancellor proceed not from his owne intelligence, or other Russes information; but all, and more then what is fayed is come from malignant Englishe here.

As for my particuler complaynts for my long staye here, the keeping mee in house ten weeks without permission to goe abroade, the denying mee payment of the 400 rebles, heretofore advised off, and the taking away my cookes, I was desired by the chancellor, in the name of the emperor (making slender excuses to each particuler, needlesse here to bee incerted) to forget all, and accept of his majestie's grace, which the chancellor did agayne in the name of th' emperor offer me: soe I tolde him, I would accept thereof, and with that I tooke leave of him.

The 23d ditto, the chancellor sent mee the prime writer of his office, with such answers, as your honour will see herewith translated out of Russes; alsoe for the 400 rebles that I demanded, two timber of sable skins for a present to my selfe, 5 payer to each on of my fower gentlemen, and two payer to each on of two Englishe servants, that went with mee, when I went to audience to the emperor.

I have fownd the chancellor's answers to my speech and writings defective, and not fully answered, and in particular not declareing whether the Englishe merchants maye come into this country further then Archangell; wherefore have written him a letter (coppie of it I send your honour herewith) but as yet I have noe answer unto it, and I thinke shall not before my departure from hence.

A Holland merchant here hath advise from thence, that the states were aboute to send a persone to this emperor, but have deferred the same, to see what reception, entertaynement, and answers will bee given to my negociations. These Dutch merchants wishe, if the states send any, that it maye bee on that will stand on his termes for the honour of their republike, as they saye I have done for his highnesse and ours: then they will hope of a better commerce and usage here then they have, and bee not soe much undervalued as they are, nor obliged to give such great presents to these lords as now they doe.

Five days past was dispeeded from hence, by these lords, a writer of the embassador's office, with the emperor's letters to the states of Holland. The writer hath noe other character then a passe: hee is accompanied with an interpreter and three servants. I am informed,

formed that he hath order to enquire in Holland what personage (soe they speak) my lord protector is; the emperor he pretending to be ignorant thereof, not giving credit to my relations, and therefore in the chancellor's answers to me (and I suppose likewise in the emperor's letter) gives not those titles that appertaynes to his highnesse, notwithstanding my speech to the chancellor the 28th of February last. I perceave the cause that wee were soe slighted is in parte, that the emperor is held in opinion, that Charles Stuart maye come to the crown of England, and therefore if that should come to passe, his imperial majesty might receive damage for his correspondency with his highnesse lord protector. Moreover the emperor will see how this campagne will prove agaynst the Pole; if he be prosperous, his pride will be such, as cannot be imagined, he having already taken a motto in his standard, *I flee high, and feare noe body*. I believe Hebden, in his translations and speech of what I have written and sayed, hath willingly omitted the words highnesse and lord, speaking of the lord protector. If he have, and that I can fynde it out, I shall call him to account for it at Archangell. This I know, that he is not well affected to the Russia company, and is more a Russe then English in affection.

The chancellor hath sent me a verball answer to my letter written him, viz. that what I have written him to know if our merchants shall come further into this cuntry then Archangell, he can give me noe playner answer, then what he hath done, untill he have further orders from the emperor, to whom he will write about it, and before my departure from Archangell, I maye have my desire. In the meane tyme he will write that governor to free the English merchants warehouscs, and to erect two bridges, and order the customer to execute according to my request.

We have advice of a gentleman sent by the republick of Venice to this emperor, who is already in this state, comeing from the Nerva.

Off the king of Sweeden's extraordinary embassadors to this emperor, that crowne's commissary here resident hourly expects advice of their coming forwards directly hether, or from Plasco, to goe the nearest way to the emperor, if it be free from the Pole's souldiers; of which there is some doubt.

The advices from the emperor's armyes are such, that what one day is sayd for trueth, is contradicted the next. 'Tis judged, he makes noe great progresse by reason of the Russes silence. This we have for certayn, that 10 dayes past, he was noe more advanced into duke Roginel's country, then he was two or three dayes after his departure from Smolensko, and that the Pole's forces have beleiged the citty Weelips, belonging to Roginell, that was taken by the emperor last year. More truer and fresher advices from Dantzick and Hamburgh of those warrs may go for England, then from hence.

To morrow I intend to depart hence towards Archangell; and this is all I know for presnt that merits your honour's cognizance; soe doe humbly take leave and remain,

Musco, July 2, 1655.

Your honour's most humble servant,

W. PRIDEAUX.

An intercepted letter to mrs. Mary Grosvenor.

MY DEAR,

THINE of the 29th of June came safe to hand. For it, thou hast my true thanks. I do assure thee, it was not little joy to see it; and am not only thankful to God, but you also. My time will not admit to enlarge, being now going aship-board, the wind being now fair; and hope my journey will not be long. Fear not, my dear, I shall through God's assistance keep myself out of my creditor's hands, till I have wherewithal to satisfy his debts, which I hope will be e're long. In the interim, if God blefs me this bout, I question not but shall satisfy all demands, and his shall be first. For thy coming to me, thou canst not more desire it than I do; but about that shall discourse, when come back again. In the mean time, I beg of thee to be very chearful, and let nothing trouble thee, for what the factor knows of me by the merchant that saw me at Brussels, it matters not; for whatever they may pretend to know of my trade, I know they know nothing, nor where I am.

T. B.

Flushing, July 12, 1655. [N. S.]

An intercepted letter to mr. Isaac Kempe, merchant.

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
P. 37.

YOURS of the 15th came safe to hand. I shall in all things observe your orders, fearing not with very great speed to do what I have to do when come there, to desire of you and all my other friends, as you love your partners, myself, and desire the good success of the suit have had so long in chancery, you come not to a trial with our factor, till I have made up the accompts, lest you be baffled, and again nonsuited; for if money be wanting to see the lawyers well, you know their tongues will be dumb, and want it, I know, you will, till I send you a bill for the last goods I sold for you, which questionless shall do upon substantial persons within a few months, I trust 2 will be the furthest; but in that the wind hath held long out of the way, it hath much hindered me, but just upon writting of this it's come good, and so am going aboard, and trust in God it will so continue, till I come to my desired port, from whence you shall hear of me by the first. In the interim, you know how to write. I am glad if your credit will be able to retain those lawyers against the day of our trial, and hope for the deferring of it this term, it will prove no prejudice (putting the worst case that can be) that though some of our witnesses should be dead, and any living suborned, yet the advantage under a debtor's hand about the falseness of his accompts, with the getting up those desperate debts for you, will make good all.

THO. HONGERFORD.

Flushing, July 12, 1655. [N. S.]

An intercepted letter to mr. William Rich, merchant in London.

SIR, AND DEAR FRIEND,

Vol. xxviii.
P. 45.

YOURS of the 29th of June came this moment safe to my hand. For it, you have my true thanks. Since the first of the last have received none from you till now. I do assure you, no endeavours of mine have been wanting to have done what I was about before this, but God's time is the best. To it we must submit. I have been these three weeks waiting for nothing but a good wind, the ship in which I go being ever since ready, and God hath upon the receipt of yours this moment given one, so that I am going just now aboard; I trust it will continue so, and trust in God to be again with great speed to follow our business; for it is not good, I see, to trust so much to servants, seeing factors, persons of greater credit, as would be esteemed, proved knaves. But as to the business I am going about, when come there, shall soon dispatch it, I question not, and then shall desire your further advice about our further trade, and disposal of what I have of yours and other partners in my hands. I hope you do believe, I shall not be wanting in my endeavours, as becomes an honest and laborious servant to serve you. Therefore, I pray, as you love me, and desire the quick dispatch, good and speedy end of our long law-suit, let none of our partners come to trial with our factor, for the cheat he hath put upon us, 'till I have made up the accompts, and got the money due and remaining in my hands, which, God giving me life, question not to do within two months at the furthest; and in the interim, if some witnesses should die, or others be suborned, I shall, by the testimony I and those whose hands will be to the accompts, make good that loss, and prevent the danger, that may arise there. Besides I know the reason hitherto we have done no more in this suit, which is so just, hath been the want of greasing the lawyers and solicitors, and well feasting the witnesses, and giving good fees to the bailiffs, which I know you and my other partners cannot do, in that you sue in form of poverty, till I get the monies in that are due upon this accout, and return it you, which I believe will be two months longer before I can do it. I have no time

mr. Bromley of Mursfield

to write to mr. Holland, therefore pray present my respects and service to him, and judge you did wisely in what you did; but as to satisfy him and others, I do not in the least doubt, when I have done my business where I go. Forget not my love to thy good friend and mine, assuring that person, I am theirs, and also tell mr. Holland, I would have those

col. Bishop

commodities delivered to your master; and also to present my service to your master, with desire to him, that the white horse, if not lame, be delivered to one mr. Richard Fuller, for Barriere's intelligencer

one mr. Thom. Arundell, to whom I gave him. I think it will be best to get Stephens the taylor to deliver him, to prevent all mistakes.

Flushing, July 12, 1655. [N. S.]

THO. HONGERFORD.

An intercepted letter to mr. Somes.

SIR,

I DO very heartily thank you for all your respects for me, but more especially for A. D. 1655. your constant correspondency. I have mist none of your letters, but that of the 22d, which I hope is also safe, though I have it not. I shall be careful whom I trust, notwithstanding I thank you for your caution. Truly it's a hard time with poor merchants, when so many break as do; and truly the times are such, as those that will scorn to be knaves must be beggars. But I hope God will keep me as well from the one as the other. I have been this long time waiting for a good wind, and now, I praise his name, he hath given me one; so that I must ask your pardon for not enlarging, I being just now going on shipboard, and have only borrowed so much time as to tell you, I have received yours, and withal to beg you and all my other partners in that cargafoone of goods that base wicked factor cheated us of (which at this time is the cause of my journey) that you go not to trial with him for it, or any part of it, 'till I have cast up this accompt, least you be worsted. I shall make all the haste I can, and question not, if God give me a good passage, to be here again within two months at the furthest. To this purpose I have written to my other partners and masters. I pray weekly fail not to give me the price current of all goods, that I may know how to lay out the money to the best advantage. I am sorry to hear any of my old acquaintance, that were so honest traders and able merchants, that might and would have been helpful to me in gaining acquaintance, are made unserviceable to themselves, by being clapt up into prison for debts. Truly, sir, I see men so hard hearted, that you shall not need to fear I will venture, till I have enough to discharge all, and have a little to do some good to others, as well as to live upon my self, which question not in a short time to gain; therefore shall take your advice.

THO. HONGERFORD.

Flushing, July 12, 1655. [N. S.]

An intercepted letter to mr. William Mathews, merchant.

DEAR W.

THIS is the first I received since the 1st of the last month. I am sorry any of mine should miscarry; but hope, if any have, it's not above one. I do assure you, I have not mist one post since I came over, to tell you how the goods went off here. The bill I received for the payment of that sum, what the goods I sold for you would not reach to; an accompt of it gave by the first post after I received it to you. I thank you for the care of all my concernments. I pray you continue your respect to my friend and friends still. I hope one day it will lie in my power to requite your love. In the interim you have my thanks. You must excuse my shortness, for I am just now going abroad. Therefore in your next write, I pray, as formerly desired. I am sensible, how angry some are with me. I hope God will so preserve me out of their power, that I shall not need to trouble my self with their Wrath; but as it may be vented on my friends, which I hope they will have a care of owning, for fear of my creditor. I shall have as much care as a man can have, that hath to do with men, to meddle with none but such as are honest; but the wisest of men may be deceived. I hope I shall be no more cozened. I thank you for your advice. I hope shall in all things follow your order, and do what I have to do for you and other principals to your content.

Flushing, July 12, 1655. [N. S.]

THO. HONGERFORD.

An intercepted letter.

Flushing, }
 Dunkirk, } July 12, 1655. [N. S.]

DEAR M.

I HAVE here inclosed sent one to mr. William Turner, but I have dated it from Vol. xxviii. Brussels; for it I have some reasons, though I think the person is honest, to whom, p. 41. I pray, when he comes, be very civil. I am so shortened in time, I can say no more; but that I desire your prayers, and the direction of the next to be by the French post, which

A. D. 1655. which goeth twice a week. Pray to the forementioned person say nothing of my journey, under the cover of mr. John Borroughs English merchant. I thank you again and again for your care of what is left in your custody.

Your servant,

THOMAS HONGERFORD.

An intercepted letter to mr. William Turner, merchant in London.

SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 29.

I Received yours, and am glad to hear of your health, I trust in God he will continue it with all prosperity for your resolution. I cannot speak a word to hinder it, except it lay absolutely in my hand to do what my heart desires, to make good your past by losses, as well as for the future to assure you of what you would answer your pains; but know, if it ever lye in my power, I shall desire a brand of infamy may by you pass upon me, if I do not acknowledge your civility. I have sent to have the white horse delivered to mr. Fuller for you. The person that he will be brought to will be my taylor, who will bring the horse to you.

Your most affectionate friend,

Brussels, July 12, 1655. [N. S.]

T. B.

An intercepted letter to mr. Richard Whitehorse, merchant, [Stephens.]

SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 39.

I Received yours, and give you my true thanks for all your love, but especially for what you inform me of, to prevent the base people from doing my friends any wrong. I have by another hand sent to thee, — in which is one to thee — by me writ last unsealed for you to see it. I pray act therein according to your best judgment to your friend's advantage. I question not, but it will lye in my power one day to demonstrate, I am not ungrateful to any, nor, assure yourself, shall be to you; let no soul alive know of this, for I do not care to be murdered by such people as I see now those are, though I shall not need to care who knows the business, as you will see when this letter comes to your hand.

Brussels, July 12, 1655. [N. S.]

Yours

T. B.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg, to secretary Thurloe.

HONORABLE SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 56.

BY the last post I gave you an accompt of the receipt of his highness's letter to the company, and now by the inclosed addresse to his highness, you will see what effect it hath had heere. These men are not (as it seemes) to be reformed with words; they are and indeed have been a long tyme letter prooffe. I am forrie to be inforced at such a time as this to give his highness and yourselfe so much trouble aboute such a petit matter. Nor shall I desire any more letters to these men, beinge troubled that strangers should have already noted their sleightinge of soe many from his highness, their indulgent protector and benefactor, in whose hands the very beinge as well as the well beinge of the company rests, they beinge (indeed) nothinge more then he is pleased to make them; but shall rather waite how it will please his highness to command concerninge them. Knowinge the desperate foole-hardines of these men, and their malice, I would have layd down the place of myselfe to have prevented, or at least lessin'd this second affront, had it not bene that his highness had commanded, and you advised me otherwise formerly. Now I shall waite yet a little longer to see how the company at London will carry the matter to whom it's referred by them here, to chose a third person. I have much adoe to beare the base insultings of Townley, who vaunts it out stoutly, that he will ere long lay me on my back, which if he doe, I must then needs say, my tyme hath bene ill spent. These men are very confident, that the company at London will espouse a third man, and prevaile with his highness, that it shall be soe; which if they

they doe, I hope his highness will please to command my returne, for it will be noe liv- A. D. 1655.
ing for me any longer here. The well affected would have addrested themselves to his
highness and yourself, for a redresse of theise things; but findinge so little successe in their
former applications, they are resolved to be silent under their sufferings, and to quit the
place as soone as they can. My wyfe is coming over hither in the first ship, if his
highness please to order any thinge by her. I shall not further detayne you from your
more weighty affairs, the truble of peruseing these and the inclosed beinge much more
than I would have willingly given you on this subject. With due respect I subscribe
myselfe,

Sir, your very humble servant,

Hamb. July 3, 1655.

RICHARD BRADSHAW.

Sir, you writ in your last, that if mr. Townley did not conforme himselfe upon this letter from his highness, he would be required to live in England. Sure I am, if he have his desert, he will be sent for over by a messenger; but I may not prescribe. Townley and his partie having got the companie's seale into their hands, doe this night write to his highness in the name of the company, though there is not one of the company, that knowe what they write, nor assented to their writeinge; so that hereafter what they write is their owne devises.

Intelligence from resident Bradshaw.

Vienna, June 23, S. V. [1655.]

THE states of Hungary at Presburg sent a committee to his imperial majesty the 16th Vol. xxviii.
present, desiring leave to make choice of his majesty's son prince Leopold Ignatius p. 60.
for their king; which being granted them, they went thereupon to the prince himself
to have his acceptance, who dispatched them with no less content; so as they making
relation thereof to the assembly, within few hours after his highness was most solemnly
declared king of Hungary; which being published with the sound of trumpets, kettle
drums, and canons, great acclamations were heard of *vivat Leopoldus primus Hungariae rex.*

Stockholm, 16 D°. S. V.

From hence nothing of news, but that about 40 ships with souldiers are gone down to the Dollers, waiting only for a fair wind. The conclusion of the Rix day is now in hand, and the king stays for nothing but the publishing of the same, it being believed, that his majesty will not enter into treaty with the Polish ambassador here.

Hamburgh, July 3. S. V.

From Stettin it is written, the Swedish forces out of the Stift of Breme were safely arrived there; and that thereupon a general march was appointed within few days after. The king was also expected daily with the land folk out of Sweden, who are already embarked, and the ships lying at the Dollers waiting only for a fair wind. However it is thought they will not stay for them, but are already gone, or at least have orders to go upon their design without them, of which more per next.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburgh, to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

HAVING received your highness's most gracious letter of the 15th of June to the Vol. xxii.
company of merchant adventurers here residing, I published it at an assembly held p. 567.
the 28th following, for the settling of the government of the fellowship for the year ensuing.

Francis Townley and his partie gave your highness's letter the hearinge, as they had done severall letters formerlie, and as at the same time they did to a letter from the court of the company at London, advising them to comply with your highness's pleasure, and to make no change in the government; and they gave care alsoe to the advice I gave them, to give a due respect to the favourable admonitions given them by your highness, minding them how often and how graciously they had been reiterated with much forbearance and clemencie by your highness, in expectation of their conformity at the last.

VOL. III.

7 P

But

A. D. 1655. But when they had done that, with much resolution they layd your highnesse's letter aside, and followed their own counsells and determinations, taken, as it seemed, before their coming there, which was to passe me by with as much scorne as they could devise, reflecting on me with many bitter and malicious expressions not fit to trouble your highness with; and to elect the said Francis Townley, their ringleader, to the place of annual deputie. The honest and well affected partie diswaded and opposed them what they could, protesting against their proceedings, but all was in vaine, for they were resolved to have their wills, though it should ruine them and the company, as one of their greatest confidants and chiefe abetter at London did lately openly declare in that court, and as themselves have often done here. Accordingly they made choyce of the said Townley, which yet they carried but by two hands; who that he might maske over his designe and surreptitious seeking of the place, feignedly desired to be excused, which not being taken well by some of his partie, who knew how earnestly he had laboured it, desired him to explyne himself what he meant by such his excuse; who then said, that he meant not thereby to reject the company's respect to him, if they thought him a meete man to serve them; but yet however he desired tyme to consider, whether he should accept of the place or noe; which accordingly they did, giving him 2 or 3 days tyme, which they soe employed in fortifying him to encounter all difficulties, as that the third day he accepted of the place; which when he had done, those of his owne partie, who had designed with him to worke their further end, as it shortly after appeared, which was to bringe in a third person, (resolving to have their wills in the outinge of me, whatever come of it) presently reassumed the place into their hands, his acceptance and present resignation giving them opportunity for it, which otherwise they could not so well have done; and then that partie in the assembly sent unto me a dissembled message, desiring me to give them my advice, how they might best proceed for the composing of the present differences among the company, protesting solemnly, that they really desired it, as well for my satisfaction as for their owne future peace and quiet; to which I returned them the annexed answer; whereupon they presently sent to me to acquaint me, that they had it in consideration to refer the choice of their deputy to the company at London, with limitation to a third person, desiring my assent to it; to which I gave them for answer, that I once offered to resign the place to a third person, if the company at London approved of it before the next election, that it might be my voluntary act for peace sake, if that were the way to it; which they did not approve of, but desired my continuance; and therefore to do it now, after they had a second time soe basely affronted me in the eyes of the Dutch, I neither could nor would assent, before I had acquainted your highness with their manner of proceeding. Whereupon they presently ordered, that the election of a deputy should be referred to the company at London, limittig them to a third; and to write to them by the post of it, and that for my answer to their message for a reconciliation, they would lay that aside, as they did. Having given your highness this true and impartial account, as I conceived it my duty, which I shall make good with all that formerly I have remonstrated, concerning their unworthy proceedings, if I be thereunto commanded, whatever they say to the contrary; I most humbly submitt it to the consideration of your highnesse, not doubting but your owne honour in your servant will be tender unto you; and that it will please your highness to preserve my reputation from the persisting malice of these men. Not that I desire to returne to the place, except it be only to lett strangers see, they cannot in such an unworthy manner force me from it; and then throw it up to them; for I profess, I had rather trail a pike at your highness command, then serve such men. Nor should I soe farr forget my selfe, as to take the boldness to prescribe how these men should be dealt with, but chearfully wayte your highness's pleasure therein; that at last I may be suitably vindicated, without which I shall not be able to serve your highness longer in this place; Townley having made his boasts openly, that he doubts not but ere long to lay me upon my back. With my most humble acknowledgement of your highnesse's most gracious acceptance of my poor services, and the favourable mention you have been pleased to make thereof in this letter to the company, I humbly crave pardon for this enforced diversion, and leave to subscribe my selfe

Your highness's, &c.

Mr. Townley and his partie have gotten the company's seale into their hands, and this night write what they please to your highness and the court at London; the honest party not knowing of it, or assenting to their writing. The men most active in putting the affront on me are Francis Townley, Clement Clarke, and Nathaniel Cambridge.

Mr.

Mr. Bradshaw to the company of merchants adventurers in Hamburg.

GENTLEMEN,

IN compliance with your desires as a company assembled, lately made known to me by a Vol. xxii. commissioner, viz. that having resumed the place of deputie for this residence into p. 570. your hands, I would now advise with you of a way how to compose the present differences soe unhappily raised amonge you, to which you solemnly professed yourselves both really and affectionately disposed, as well for my satisfaction as your own future peace and quiet. I chearfully assent, being desirous to do all good offices for the fellowship, however unkindly I have beene dealt withall by any particular members of the company. Only I must needs say, it would have been much more sutable to have made that proposition before you had layd me aside the second time, contrary to the gracious admonitions of his highness, and the advice of the company in London, for that I could then have been more servicable to you in the busines. However, if I may be yett instrumental to stopp the breach, and cement the company, it will not repent me to have done good for evill; in order to which good worke I have, according to my promise to the committee, had conference with some of either partie; and truly I doe not fynd by them the remora soe greate, but that it may easily be removed, if both sides stand alike affected to peace; for the obtayning of which I conceive it sutable to propound thus unto you, that some of the more moderate men on both sides be deputed by this assembly to meete together, and in a friendly and Christian like way to hear each other's grievances, if there be any, and to give and receive satisfaction, if it may be. And whereas the maine of the difference at present (as things have been carried and heightned by the subtil management of some men, who have wrought up their private discontents into one grand division of the company, the better to maske their selfish designes) seems to proceed from a desire in the one party to remove me absolutely from the place of deputie, wherein I served the company now five years to their advantage, as by their often acknowledgement appears, let reasons be assigned to those men for such their design, which if the other party cannot satisfie them in, that then I may be acquainted with them, to see if satisfaction may be had from me, professing myselfe ready to give it, if reason require it; which Christian course should have been taken before such publique affronts were putt upon me. If such a meeting and moderate debating of matters in difference make way for a better understanding betwixt the parties, as it may be hoped it will, it may then be sutable, in the next place, to endeavour a thorough reconciliation and cementing of the company, which probably will not require much tyme or trouble; for if the cause were once removed, it's like the effect would be easy, and peace enter by the same door it went out at; which great and necessary blessing to the company, especially at such a tyme as this, if it shall please God to give it by this way, it will then, in my apprehension, be most sutable and seasonable for you to proceede to the electing of a deputie for this residency; and this the rather, because it seems to me, that you have resumed the place into your hands, to see if you can make up the breach before you dispose of it again; that soe whoever you choole may come to the place with the love and joynt approbation of the company for his encouragement. If you shall thinke fitt however at this tyme, or whenever you shall goe upon that worke, I desire you to take into your consideration these few following particulars, which I conceive myself obliged, from the commands that lye upon me, to tender unto you by way of advice, for your owne good.

1. That as it becomes Christians and discrete men, who apprehend their owne welfare in that of the companie's, you would impartially consult, whether the laying of me aside hath really proceeded from any just cause given by me; and that it is for the good of the company in general, that you soe withdraw your respects from me; or if it be not rather the design of some particular men arising from principles of selfe and will, whose actings are knowne to you as well as to me.

2. Whether it be not the company's concernment, *rebus sic stantibus*, rather to comply with his highness gracious admonitions, in whose favour consisteth the well being, yea (at least in my apprehension) the very being of the company, as likewise with the good advice of the court of London to make no more change in the government, then with the desires of such men as affect a change.

3. Whether the hopes you have of advantaging yourselves by another deputie may in an equal ballance outweigh the prejudice you may probably bring upon the whole company, by so slighting the benigne advertisements of his highness your gracious protector and benefactor in soe small a matter; as alsoe whether you can probably promise yourselves the enjoyment of that peace, which at present you want and seeke, in the having of another deputie, with the dislike of his highness, the company at London, and many of yourselves.

A. D. 1655.

I expect to be censured by some among you for this advice, as if I pleaded for myself, having received that measure from them formerly, for advising you, according to my dutie, to comply with his highnesse's letters. But others, whoe may penetrate further into the nature of the business then they, I presume, will acquitt me of it, upon this account, that your now twice laying of me aside by the power of one partie, without any just reason for it that I know of, and contrary to the advice beforementioned, doth oblige me in this friendly manner to reason the matter with you, in order to my vindication among strangers, who will otherwise conclude me worthie of all the disrespect hath been cast upon me, which my publick character will not submit unto; though otherwise I professe myself in the presence of Almighty God (whoe must one day judge us all) as desirous to be quitt of the trouble as any among you do or can will my remove.

Gentlemen, at your request I have thus hastily, by reason of the streightnesse of time, given you my slender apprehensions how you may hopefully proceed for the obtaining of what you seemed by that message really to desire, viz. the restoring of peace by cementinge the company, which if God shall incline you to hearken unto, I shall be glad to have been instrumental of your good also in this particular, desiring that whenever I leave you it may be in in as much love as I found you, and for a long time found from you, when I was less able to serve you then at present others conceive me to be. I suppose, you registered your said message to me, and therefore I desire that this my answer may be also registered under it, and before this assembly rise I may hear from you thereof, which will oblige me to remayne,

Gentlemen, your respectfull friend and servant.

Hamb. July 3, 1655.

A letter of intelligence from Turin.

V. xxvii.
p. 615.

LE pape voyant, que les pauvres reformez des Vallies recoyvant de l'assistance de la charité des eglises reformes de France, de Suisses, d'Angleterre, & du Pays Bas, & a l'opposite envoye de l'argent a ceux, qui ont fait le massacre; & continuent de leur faire la guerre, dont aussi l'armée des persecuteurs a grossit. Mais a l'opposite les dits freres reformes recoyvent de l'ayde de plusieurs volontaires, qui viennent de divers endroits bien loing a sacrifier leurs vies pour la defence de la vraye religion, & de temps en temps tuent plusieurs de ces persecuteurs, qui leur ayant ravi la moisson de leurs champs de la plaine, veulent encore leur en lever celle de la montagnes, selon que nous apprenons par diverses lettres du 17 de Juillet. Le duc employe contr'eux esquadron de Savoye & la milice du Piemont. Josue Javel, capitaine des dits reformez, quoy que blessé, de son liét a trouve moyen de delivrer des prisons de Luzerne 25 prisonniers de la religion. Le duc de Savoye n'a pas voulu permettre a monsieur le major Wys, député des messeigneurs les cantons evangeliques, d'aller conférer avec les freres des Vallies pour retourner a Turin, & faire rapport de leurs raisons & de leur estat a S. A. R. & a messieurs les quatre ambassadeurs des dits cantons, qui sont en chemin pour aller a Turin, pour ceste affaire; les quels aussi il dit ne pouvoir a present recevoir comme entremetteurs aux traites, l'ayant remis entre les mains du roy de France. On dit, que monsieur le marquis de Piene va commander en l'armée, ce qu'on estime avoir esté procuré par ceux, qui le croyant equitable envers les reformez des Vallies, veulent par ce moyen l'empescher d'intervenir au traité qu'on doit faire avec eux.

Extrait d'une lettre de monsieur Gabriel Wys, député de messeigneurs les cantons evangeliques a Turin, de Turin du 17^e Juillit, 1655.

Vol. xxvii.
p. 617.

JE n'ay pour ceste foy autre chose a vous dire, sinon que S. A. R. ne veut en aucune façon faire suspension d'armes avec ces pauvres peuples de la religion, encore moins recognoistre les cantons pour mediateurs, disant qu'elle a remis l'affaire a la disposition du roy tres chrestien, ou m'a bien voulu permettre d'aller aupres ces pauvres gens, mais non pas de retourner pour certaines raisons, que je n'ay peu comprendre, de sorte que je me suis resolu demeurer icy en attendant nos ambassadeurs cependant je tascheray d'envoyer aux freres les lettres consolatoires. Monsieur Morland est bien logé & magnifiquement traité aux despeus de sa dite A. R.

Extract out of the register of the resolutions of their high and mighty lordships the states general of the United Netherlands.

Martis, July 13, 1655. [N. S.]

THE lords of Beverning, Vander Hoolck, and Isbrants, have exhibited to the assembly, likewise caused to be read a project of instructions, according to their high and mighty lordships resolution of the 3d of this instant, for an extraordinary commissioner to be sent in the behalf of this state to the protestant cantons of Switzerland, as also to Savoy; whereupon being debated, their high and mighty lordships do return thanks to the said lords commissioners for the pains taken about it. And the said instructions being agreed on, they are desired to sound the lord Rudolph van Ommeren, and to desire his lordship to accept of the said commission, and to officiate and effect the same in the quality of ambassador extraordinary of this state; and all such necessary dispatches and writings shall be made ready, as are requisite thereunto. Likewise a copy of the instructions and resolutions shall be sent to the lord Nieuport, their high and mighty lordships ambassador extraordinary in England, to serve for his information.

It agreeth with the register

RUYSCH.

An intercepted letter.

Cologne, July 13, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

I DO entreat you, with all the writings and informations of that little you are trusted to procure for me, to meet me with them and their good advice at Calais the last of July new stile. I shall desire you to struggle with your necessity; and what damage in expence or time you have suffered for me, I shall immediately cure the first; and the latter time itself shall shew my gratitude to you. I pray you fail not; for by God's leave I will not fail you.

The superscription,

*For mr. John Fleming, at the Unicorn-inn
in Holborn.*

A letter from mr. Harris.

Madrid, July 13, 1655. [N. S.]

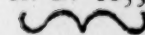
SIR, AND HONOURED FRIEND,

I Writ to your honour from St. Sebastian all that I had observed worthy of your knowledge. In this city (where I arrived the day before yesterday) we do stand here all trembling, as for fear of the design of general Blake, who having refreshed his fleet with water, victuals, and other necessary provisions, by leave of the duke of Medina, he set sail, under pretence of returning for England, and presently after feated himself five or six leagues from Cadiz, and in sight of the said port, just in the passage where the fleet is to come from the Indies. This caused the king, as soon as he heard the said news, to send an express to the said duke, and to his other ministers of these parts, that they should keep a good guard; and especially that they should hasten and make ready all the ships upon these coasts, as soon as is possible, to defend them, if need be. But the fleet not being yet come, and the most part of the foreign merchants that are interested therein, through the stay and risk thereof, do make good the old proverb, that between words and effects there is a great distance. And I can assure your honour, that in the port or harbour of Passage, a league from St. Sebastian, there are no more than 10 ships, great and small, and that the biggest of them all carries not above 45 pieces of ordnance, and that there are but four, which deserve a better name than good barks; besides that they are all unaccommodated and unprovided, and that it is above a year since they were ordered to be rigg'd forth, if they could have provided money enough to have done it withal. I was told, a few days since, by a person worthy of credit, that in the bay of Cadiz there are no more than four gallions, and six other ordinary merchant-men, which expect the com-

VOL. III.

7 Q

ing

A. D. 1655.  ing of the fleet; so that all the threats, which we make here, serve to no other end than to declare the sense, which we have and ought to have of the misfortune we are like to fall in, if we be forced to break with the English, although we say that we shall be able to set forth to sea forty men of war, and that we will go and ask Blake the reason, why he continues to lie so near our ports, for who is so blind, that cannot see our weakness and poverty? in effect, I do really conceive, that if the English take the fleet, they can never send another fleet to the Indies, unless we make peace with them there, which they say they cannot obtain of the lord protector, unless they will part with the inquisition, and give the English a port in the West Indies; a bit too hard of digestion. Here is very little spoken of the fleet of general Penn, either by reason we do already hold, that he hath executed his design, which we cannot prevent, or remedy; or more truly, in regard the greatness of the present fear, and near at hand, doth stupify the sense of that which is more remote: the speech and prayer of the common people is, that God would defend them from a war with England, foreseeing a ruin and an unavoidable destruction to befall them, if it be not prevented. As to an accommodation between the two crowns, it doth seem as if the zeal and fervor of his holiness was grown very cold, it may be through the intercession of some French ministers at Rome.

The factor of mr. Peter Blisset doth humbly desire your honour to send him speedily some monies, for his subsistence during his abode in these parts, in regard his negotiation doth put him to great charges, in travelling from place to place. You may remit the money to mr. Francisco Kerye, merchant at St. Sebastians, by means of his correspondent, mr. Roddon, at London. I am going in all haste to Cadiz, to adjust there my accounts with some merchants, from whence I will write at large to your honour of all things. In the mean time I kiss your hand, in the quality of your most affectionate servant,

HENRY DEL PONTE.

Since the writing of my letter here is news come, that general Penn hath taken the island of the Canaries, and other places adjacent to that; and that the pope doth labour roundly to make a peace between the two crowns, through the means of a marriage between the king of France and the infanta of Spain; so that those two kingdoms may join their forces together to chastise (as they say) the insolence and pride of the English; to which end it is said, that his holiness doth offer great sums of money, and that the emperor will join all the strength he hath likewise. But the best of all is, that our king will treat with the Turk, to induce him to this union against the English; and the silver fleet is safe in some good harbour (without a name) in the Indies; but there is no credit to be given to these rumors.

Indorsed by secretary Thurloe,

*Mr. Harris's letter of the 13th of July, 1655,
from Madrid.*

A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.

Paris, 1st July, 1655.

Vol. xxviii.
p. 84.

WE have been six days without hearing any thing from the siege of Landrecy; but yesterday night I saw some letters written by the mareschal of Turenne to his lady, from the camp, dated the 10th in the morning. They bear, that mr. de Montpouillan his nephew had been greivously wounded; and that he had sent a trumpeter to mr. le prince to obtain a pass, that his nephew might be carried to St. Quintin. And as for the siege, he writes in general, that it's in a very good posture, and that he hopes to render his majesty master of the place very suddenly. His secretary, which wrote the day before, saith, that the 7th the counterscarp was gained in two assaults, in one of which was the regiment of Turenne, and in the other that of Uxelles; which being done, the ditch has been pierced, and the mines ready to be grapled into the bastion, as he writ. It's written from St. Quintin, that mr. de Montpouillan was arrived there extremely wounded in the eye, throat, and thigh; that the miners were grapled to the body of the place; and that it was verily thought, the said place would be obliged to yield the 15th or 16th instant. That a great convoy was preparing at Guise and at la Fere, which are intended to pass into the camp, as much to refresh the soldiers, as to fortify the place, when it shall be taken. It's to be conducted by the mareschals of la Motheaudancourt, of Grammont, and Grancay; and to hasten the march thereof, cardinal Mazarin and mr. le Tellier have come to la Fere ever since funday last; and mr. le prince is still incamped

incamped towards Estreu, l'Escheille, Vandaucourt, and other places. Victuals begin to be rare in our camp, but as the place is at its last gasp, it's hoped, that the pains mr. le prince has used to hinder our convoys, will be to no purpose. The prince of Conti has taken Castillon, don John of Austria not daring to succour it, although he made a shew thereof, having marched with all his army on that side. The rumour runneth, that we have besieged Valence in the Milanese, which I hardly believe, by reason that place is too far in the enemy's country.

Last week mr. Martarel was put up in the bastille. The cause is unknown, unless it be for having had some intelligence with the cardinal of Retz, who is his great friend. This is all I can inform you by this ordinary, hoping to inform you by the next of the taking of Landrecy, unless mr. le prince doth attempt to succour it.

Another letter to mr. Petit of the same date.

THE siege of Landrecy is much advanced. It's monsieur de Montpouillan, brother to Vol. xxviii. the marquis of Cugnac, who has been wounded to death, and not the marechal of P. 85. la Ferte Seneterre, as had been said. Although the king's army be exceeding great, yet nevertheless levies are making to put in the place of those, which have been killed. I hear the duke of York is gone to court.

We are also informed from Grenoble, that mr. Lesdiguieres is making levies for Italy. Some write from Flanders, that queen Christina having sent to Swedeland to demand her pensions, they had been denied her, unless she came and spent them there.

A letter to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Paris, July 14, 1655. [N. S.]

IN regard we are not the friends of the Vallies of Angrogne and Lucerne, as you English, Vol. xxviii. who do take their business to heart, therefore we are not so curious to enquire after P. 88. them, nor to know their affairs, nor liberal enough to assist them in their afflictions. But now you do desire to be informed thereof, I shall make it my business to give you the best advice I can from thence, and of their affairs, which shall be by the next post. In the mean time, the town of Landrecy is giving up the ghost. We do expect every day to hear, that it is taken. I perceive by your letters, that we are not like to see you here so soon as we had hoped; and if I do rightly understand the humour of the lord protector by his deportments, I cannot imagine myself, that you will be able to return so soon. However I pray God my prophecies may prove false.

General Blake to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I HAVE received your letter of the 14th of June sent by the Endeavour smacke, Vol. xxviii. together with the inclosed cipher, for which I thanke you. Though I have carefully P. 92. preserved the originall, I cannot enlarge myself at present, according as I desire, being incumbered with accidentall businesses, but shall give you a further account of affaires by the shippes, which I am to send from the fleete. In the mean time I remaine

Aboard the George off Lagos-Bay,
July 4. 1655.

Your very affectinoate friend and servant,

ROB. BLAKE.

General Blake to the protector.

July 4, 1655.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

THE packet sent by lief. Major, master of the smack, with the instructions of the Vol. xxviii. 13 and 14 June, and also another for sending some part of the fleete, I received P. 98.

f e c r e t instructions t h e
monday last about midnight. The 37. 24. 22. 36. 14. 96. 142. concerning 38. 27. 24.
p l a t e fleet e x p e c t e d f r o m
34. 30. 20. 96. 54. 128. 24. 41. 34. 24. 22. 96. 54. 23. 25. 66. 33. 61. as also
63.

A. D. 1655. o t h e r s h i p s b o u n d t o A m e r i c a f h a l l b e
 63. 68. 57. 54. 94. 121. 21. 33. 39. 32. 23. 38. 63. 113. 37. 27. 50. 30. 60. 21. 24.
 c a r e f u l l y o b f e r v e d a s G o d
 22. 20. 36. 24. 25. 39. 60. 60. 42. 91. 79. 37. 54. 36. 39. 24. 23. 20. 37. 26. 33. 23.
 g i v e s o p p o r t u n i t y
 26. 28. 39. 24. 67. 33. 34. 64. 63. 36. 38. 39. 32. 28. 38. 42. The twelfth of the last
 month I sent your highnes an account of our affaires by capt. Peck in the Amity, as also
 two duplicates by the Fame and Ketch, which I hope are or will shortly come to your highnes
 hands; since which time there is not any thing. That your highnes may have speedy notice
 of my receipt of your last commands, I have dispatcht away this smack before, intending
 in obedience to the same, to send after a part of the fleet, as soon as all are come together,
 some being at present employed in fetching licour, by whome your highnes shall, God
 willing, receive a further account from mee. At this time, seeing it hath pleased your
 highnes to command my longer stay in and about these parts with the rest of the fleet,
 I shall make bold to offer one humble desire, which I conceive to be my duty for the
 service of the commonwealth, and the better effecting the ends proposed, that your
 highnes will be pleased to consider the condition of our fleet, especially of the great ships,
 which are very foule and defective, particularly the ship, in which I am, being very leaky,
 and the head of the main-mast unsound; and that in lieu of them you will send three
 other ships or frigats, as your highnes shall thinke fit, for the carrying on of your service.
 I have no more at present to trouble your highnes with, but my humble thanks for
 your favourable acceptation of our action at Porto Farino, and to desire the continuance
 of your good opinion of me and my future endeavours to shew my selfe in all things

Aboard the George of the bay of Lagos. Your highnes most humble

and faithfull servant,

ROB. BLAKE.

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
P. 94.

YOU may please to remember, that I gave you my feares and thoughts, that the
 worke of transplantation might receive some obstructions from England, thorough
 misrepresentations, and that you may not be deceived into a prejudice against the worke
 by what reports may come from hence, by reason of some late orders, I shall give you
 a breif account thereof, that upon our journey we found the officers objecting in several
 places, that some of our own orders had obstructed the work of transplantation, which
 were made on the behalf of sir William Fenton, sir Hardres Waller, and other English
 proprietors. The words of the order were so penned, as gave them libertie to keep Irish
 proprietors on there estates, which words were disowned by most of the councill, not to
 be within there intentions to grant; and we finding those orders to be pretended hin-
 derers of the works, wee did recall them; the orders themselves alsoe giving us a libertie
 therein, they being but till further order. This is a true state of the case; and though
 I should be willing to incourage and gratifye these persons wherein I may, yet to obstruct
 so good and necessary a work for my particular interests, it would be against our trust.
 I clearly see, that we must encounter with more and more difficulties, when the adventurers
 and soldiers are in possession, Irish tenants being easier to get, and of more present profit
 then English. But if the Lord hath not a further scourge for us here, he will strenghten
 our hands to the carrying of it on. We intend to morrow, if the Lord please, to spend
 some time throughout this nation, in the behalf of the poor Waldenses; and I hope,
 considering our povertie, here will be a very liberall contribution. I desire to know his
 highnes pleasure, how it shall be disposed of when collected. One great fear is, that it
 will be misimproved, as the contribution was formerly for Ireland: the certaintie of the
 contrary will much advance the busines. I shall not further trouble you, but that i am

July 4, 1655.

Your affectionate friend and servant,

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

Order

Order of the states general.

ORdines generales Federati Belgii audito ex relatione commissariorum suorum quicquid A. D. 1655.
 generosus dominus Henricus Canailles, serenissimi & potentissimi Poloniæ regis
 ablegatus, vigore regiarum literarum datarum Varaviæ 19^o mensis Maii proximè præte-
 riti dictis commissariis aperuit exposuitque, ac perpenfis omnibus, quæ isthuc spectare
 possint, declarant, sese perlibenter et quam tenero grati animi sensu percipere egregiam con-
 fidenciam, quâ serenissimus rex in rebus arduis cum hoc statu ægrè insistit, affirmantes
 vicissim sese mutuâ & incorruptâ fide tam candidæ regii affectus & confidentiæ demonstra-
 tioni quovis tempore pro virili responsuros esse, semperque laboraturos quantum in se est, ut
 commoda pax & tranquillitas regnorum, dominorum, ac subditorum serenissimi regis,
 communi commerciorum navigationisque bono omni meliori modo promoveantur. Requi-
 runt porro domini ordines, ut dictus dominus ablegatus antememoratum regem de hujus
 status integerrima voluntate & paratissimis studiis atque officiis erga regiam majestatem
 ejusque regna & subditos certiore omnimodoque securum reddere velit. Actum Hagæ,
 15 Julii, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxviii.
 P. 112.

Ad mandatum antememoratorum dominorum ordinum generalium.

Count Brienne to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Soissons, July 15, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

HIS majesty and the whole court is come to this place, where I have received yours
 of the first; in answer to which I have only to tell you, that notwithstanding the
 assurances, which are given you of the good intentions of the lord protector, and the
 affected excuses, which are managed to delay the signing of your treaty, his majesty is
 resolved to be no longer delayed therewith; and therefore you are to endeavour to conclude
 the same one way or other. It is very probable, that the having let the marquis of Leda
 go away unsatisfied, and not having concluded any thing with him, that orders are given
 to Penn to damnify the Spaniards, and to assault them in their most sensible part; for if
 he should take from them their Indies, or only render the navigation more uncertain,
 they will not have wherewithal left them to maintain their greatness, since they do
 draw all their gold and wealth from thence to carry on the war; and one might conclude
 with assurance, if that the protector doth intend to take that course, that he will agree
 with us, to the end he may the better carry on his designs, the Spanish forces being em-
 ployed to defend themselves against us. I cannot tell you any certain news of our siege,
 nor what passeth in the enemy's army; for since the 3d of this month, we have not
 heard any thing, and the last advice we had did give us some hopes, that we shall
 march into the place within few days, which God grant; the consequence whereof is well
 known unto us.

Vol. xxviii.
 p. 100.

An intercepted letter.

ALEXANDER WEST to MR. BROOKES.

SIR,

IHAVE yours of the 12th current. Though I have little subject, yet I can hardly
 forbear to write to you; and now these are to tell you, that my intended design is
 frustrated. The divine power will so have it, and I am content, and I do rejoice, that he
 hath brought me to it, and can say with delight, it is the Lord, let him do what seemeth
 him good.—A friend of mine proposed it to the French ambassador, but he very much
 slighted it; so as I judged it not fit to proceed any further in it, especially finding his
 highness to be alienated from me, and all his promises to prove ineffectual. Well, let God
 do what he pleaseth. I will trust in him.—What will become of the peace, I know
 not; till then I have no hopes for my return; so that you may command me to come
 to you and go with you where you please; but let all things be well weighed.

Vol. xxviii.
 p. 104.

An intercepted letter.

July 15, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
p. 108.

I HAVE lately spoke with some of my friends, and am desired to let you know by Ma. If. that she would not have you resolve of removing me till you return from the place where you are going, as believing you may then know more than you do now. I shall desire you to resolve upon it, when you write next; for the old man, that gave you the red books of maps, is of the same mind, that he feareth we may both repent it. Souday I cannot hear of, nor can imagine how I should. Next post I shall send the letter was desired.

[This is to Stephens.]

H. Cromwell to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 118.

I Received yours with your cypher, but am sorry the commissions for the judges hath mett with any obstruction. I am heer waitinge uppon the Lord for a winde, and have bin soe since monday. The weather hath bin verry bade, that we durste not venter to sea; but shall take holde of the first opportunitie, that God shall putt into our handes. We have had much of his mercy in our journey hither, all our company beinge in verry good health (praised be the Lord.) Wee are in a barren countrey, that affordes noe news, only matter of greate sadeness, to see a company of poore wretches readie to starve for the wante of spirituall foode. Heer is not above twoe ministers in all this islande, ande about three score parishe churches in it. Indeed, sir, it is a very lamentable sight, and would move any man's harte that hath any sence of God. Their is a desire in the people to have a supply of godly ministers. I have had many addressses, the which I shall transmitt to you suddenly; and I doubt not but that God will stirr up your harte to gett this remedied. I desire that his highnes and her highnes may knowe my wife and my selfe, with our litle one, are all well. I shall not further enlarge, but remaine

Holyhead, July 5, 1655.

Your truely affectionate friend

and humble servant,

H. CROMWELL.

Dr. Ralph Cudworth to secretary Thurloe.

MUCH HONOURED SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 116.

UPON the manifold experiences, that I have of your favour and great civility, I am emboldened at this time, with my humble service to you, to present you with these few lines, about a busines, that concerneth this gentleman, the bearer hereof, doctor Cummins. He hath been recommended to his highnes the lord protector by sir John Reinolds and coll. Goffe, in order to a place now possessed by coll. White in the Tower, upon supposition of his surrender. His highnes was by those gentlemen sufficiently assured of his fidelity, only required some further satisfaction concerning his fitnes for such a civill employment, he having been bred a scholar. Now the gentleman being so well knownen to me to be a person of extraordinary worth and ingenuity (he having been formerly my pupill, and since that, my acquaintance in London) I shall make bold to signify thus much to you; that though he have the degree and title of doctor in physick, yet he is one, that is farre from being a meer scholar, or one that hath conversed only with books, but as he hath naturally a singular genius and dexterity *in rebus agendis*, and the management of externall and civill affaires, so his education has been such in travaile abroad, as might not make him onely an accomplit gentleman, but also afford him much experience of the world, and dispose him for any civill employment. And since his returne from forrain parts he hath been chiefly employed and exercised that way. And I doubt not but his highnes, upon sight of him, and a little speech with him, would sufficiently be satisfied concerning his fitnes for a civill employment. Sir, I shall therefore make bold humbly to request this favour of you, that if you find him such as I have described him (as I am confident you will) that you would please to present him to his highnes,

highnes, that he may again desire his highnes favour, which if vouchsafed to him, I doubt not but he will hereafter well deserve. And since your employments are so many and weighty, and his highnes not at all times accessible, if at the present time of the delivery of these it be unseasonable and unfuteable to your occasions to waite upon his highnes, if you will please to command this gentleman at any other time, which you conceive most opportune, to waite upon you; and you will then present him to his highnes, and promote his busines for the obtaining of his highnes favour, you will not only exceedingly engage this gentleman, but also deeply oblige,

Sir, your most humbly devoted servant,

Christ's coll. in Cambr. July 5, 1655.

R. CUDWORTH.

A Letter of intelligence from the Hague.

On saturday the 10th of July 1655. [N. S.]

THE design of those of Zealand concerning those of Overysseel is, that there ought to be commissioners sent thither; and to this effect they have already named Wybergen. Vol. xxvii. p. 785.
As for the election of a stadtholder in Zealand, infallibly it will be a point of the next assembly. However the clearest sighted do think, that it will be only *pro forma*.

They have again debated to write to the resident de Vries, to the end to speak to the king of Denmark, and to sound him concerning the preparations of the Swedes, and that is now resolved upon. But as for the ships designed for the Sound two months since, that remains as it was, and nothing further done in it. Vice admiral de Ruyter is gone towards the west, and having embarked several considerable and curious ones of Amsterdam will set them ashore in England to see the protector; amongst the rest Witsen the burgo-master of Amsterdam; item the Drossard Bicker, and many others.

The commissioners of the states of East Friesland and of the city of Embden have been this morning the first time before their commissioners, and are to give in on monday next every one their accounts, and proceed to the liquidation.

This session were named the lords Beverning, Stavenisse, Hoolck, and Vierfen, (secretly omitting the lords Capelle, Ripperda, and Schuylenburgh) to take in hand the instrument of alliance with Brandenburg, in regard the lord Weyman had exhibited it; and to hear the said lord upon it, and to endeavour to adjust it as much as they can possibly.

July 12.

Saturday the 10th was likewise a conference held upon the treaty with Brandenburg. On the behalf of this state, there were at it the lords Beverning, Stavenisse, Hoolck, and Vierfen, (the lord de la Capelle remaining privately excluded;) and for the elector was the lord Weyman. And since that those of Holland had declared expressly, that they would not appear in the conferences, if the said lord Capelle were present, that is a sign that the lord Weyman had desired him to give way for the love of the elector: consequently that the elector doth greatly desire the conclusion of the alliance; as in effect he in this last conference (where were read the two last projects, the one against the other) did very much press the conclusion of the alliance, saying that to morrow was a post day to write to Berlin; and that it did very much concern the elector to know, what he might expect from hence. But the lord Beverning said, that he was to make report thereof to the assembly of Holland, which was ready to fit; so that they have not yet adjusted that wherein they do differ; and above all the lord Weyman did oppose the insertion of the treaty of Xanten, and the guaranty after the 13th article. They did propound to him, that they would permit to have it put into the 20th article; but he would not agree to it; as also concerning the number of assistance to be given they are not yet agreed.

At Gorcum by order of the court of Holland there was apprehended one of the burgo-masters by the proctor general; but the citizens came armed, and rescued their burgo-master out of his hands. One or two of the serjeants or assistants of the proctor general were wounded in the exploit, so that he is returned *re infecta*. This and the like businesses do awaken the hopes of those, who do favour the prince of Orange, saying, that such things will happen, as long as they are without a stadtholder; as if under the king of Spain they had not a stadtholder, and yet however the revolt happened.

Those of Deventer having seen the advice of those of Overysseel, say, that the Zealanders are bad judges, condemning Deventer before they have heard them. There is come advice from the lord of Brederode, that his legs are still swelled, and that he is advised to go to the baths at Aken.

A. D. 1655. This morning the lord Weyman demanded a new conference with the commissioners upon the treaty with Brandenburgh, which was consented unto, but Holland declared not to be yet ready.

There is come a letter from the protestant cantons of Switzerland still upon the subject of the Vaudois, requiring help and subsidy for them.

The cities of Delft, Rotterdam, Schiedam, Briel have taken out a penal mandate against the city of Dort, concerning the new channel, which those of Dort are a making on that side of the key; but those of Dort do not give over, having at present at least 2,600 men at work.

July 13.

There being come yesterday a new letter from the protestant Switzers, wherein they declare, that they will send a solemn embassy to the duke of Savoy, inviting this state, that they will likewise second the business by letters, or sending an envoy; they have this day resolved to second the Switzers by an express deputation of one of the states general, namely the lord Ommeren of Guelderland.

It is said, that the provincial court of Holland, in the exploit for the seizing of the burgomaster at Gorcum, hath committed an abuse. So likewise the penal mandate against those of Deventer will be nothing.

July 15.

Yesterday was resolved, that next Sunday (at which time the baptism of the young prince of Tarante is to be solemnized) on the behalf of the states general shall assist the first four provinces, and in their behalf the lords Gent, Barendrecht, Stavenisse, and Hoolck; and at night to the feast shall also come the lords Wykell, Ripperda, and Schulenburgh. They are to give in the chamber (for the midwife, nurse, and dry-nurse, &c.) an hundred half ryders of gold; and to the poor in the church one hundred gilders. As for the present to be given to the child, it is yet held in deliberation.

July 16.

This morning a conference was held with the ministers of Denmark, by the lords Berenning and Wykell, to consult with them concerning the design and exploit of the Swedes; and if they know nothing of it, especially if they do not know what monsieur Dorel, the Swedish minister in Denmark, hath proposed there; for they are very ill satisfied, that the resident de Vries hath not writ any thing of it. But these ministers of Denmark did declare, that they knew nothing of it; yea they did produce and read the letters which they had from Denmark, which mentioned neither Dorel nor the design of the Swedes.

They have made here great noise of ten or twelve men of war, that should be sent for the Sound: but as yet there is not one gone. With much ado there are two other ships under Tromp, which do tack to and again between Jutland and Norway.

The chamber of accompts hath made report, amongst the rest, concerning the quantity of lordships mortgaged in the Meyerie of Boisdeduc to disingage them, and to sell them to the profit of the generality.

One de Raefvelt having commission of the states of Overysfel of Deventer to be of the chamber of accompts, hath been accepted, notwithstanding those of Zwoll pretended to be the true states.

Here is a great rumour, that the lords d'Ailva and Mareignault (both of the states general) being sent commissioners into Flanders upon the alteration of the magistrates, were so grievously fallen out, that they sent challenges to one another to fight it out; and they agreed upon the place without the gate of Sas. One was already come to the place, but they shut the gate upon the other, and would not suffer him to go out of the town.

A letter of intelligence.

Cologne, July 16, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 160.

I AM much troubled to miss hearing from you this post; also I either fear you have no value for the service I do you, or that yours miscarry, or you have not your health. Yet I hope it is none of these, but your multitude of business, that hindereth me from having that honour and satisfaction; for I expect your commands in particular; and let me once more beg them, and deal plainly with me, what you will have me to do, for now by

by the last letters from France, we find, that Jermyn hath handled the business so dexterously, that he hath prevailed at court for the duke of York's being admitted into employment this campaign; who is already in the field, and hath the charge of the convoy and recruits going to the army now before Landrecy, which consists of 6000 horse and 4000 foot. His going is against Ormond's and the gown-men's interest here; for now they fear a breach between you and France, which if it be, Charles Stuart will soon be there; then they would be laid aside: now they labour all they can to establish in the court of Spain (these having none in France) so that, should you break with Spain, they by that will be able to support their power here, otherwise they must fall to dirt. The lord Belcarres treats the presbyterians interest here, which Middleton quits, and comes to hear common prayer. The contest between these two is yet as in my last. The duke of Newburgh, whose interest is the chief engine, that is made use of at the court of Spain, on wednesday last visited Charles Stuart here; he was solemnly received, and was two hours in private with him all alone in his cabinet. He is a most zealous friend. The intention of Charles Stuart's going with him to Bon was altered by the duke's undertaking that business, which he now takes in his way for Newburgh, whither he is now gone. I can assure you, for all your severe proceedings, the protector's murder is with all eagerness pursued by those, which have been sent from hence about it. I have been most industrious in giving knowledge of it from time to time. Not knowing that my letters come to your hands much perplexes me; for I protest before God, you yourself cannot with more zeal endeavour his preservation, than I do; and to faithfully serve him, in whatever commands you shall impose upon me, I will never be failing of.

The lord Craven is here now in private.

The prince's royal sets forth the 25th instant for this place.

Prince Rupert is daily looked for.

Count Brienne to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Soissons, July 16, [1655. N. S.]

MY LORD,

Y^Esterday morning I received your letter, being the day that the town of Landrecy was surrendered to his majesty. I confess, that I was very impatient to read it, but afterwards I repented my self of my unquietness, and my curiosity was not satisfied, for I did believe, and with much reason, that it did contain the signing of the treaty, considering the thing to be so much for his interest. I made no doubt but you and your commissioners had signed, and that you had sent to me for the ratification; but perceiving, that the protector doth still delay you, and that I am deceived in my expectation, I did not fail to acquaint their majesties with the contents of your letters, who have commanded me to let you know, that they do heartily desire you to make an end, to ease them of their trouble they are in at present, in order to your negotiation. And for the business of Savoy, which might have given a stop to our proceedings, you may assure the protector, that we have done all what he could desire of us; but we can but intreat, and not command the prince of Savoy; certain it is, that his subjects had very much forgotten their duty. God be thanked for the prosperous success of his majesty, who is not in a condition to stand in fear of the armies of his neighbours; those of Spain are looked upon to be in a very low condition, by those that have the conduct thereof.

Jacques Oysel to Nieuport, the Dutch ambassador in England.

Middleburgh, July 16, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

I HAVE been for some time in Flanders, and am newly come home. We wonder that the treaty between England and France is not yet signed; it is strange, that it is delayed so long. Pray God it may take effect. Here are letters from Agra, out of the islands, which advise, that the silver fleet, 40 ships strong, was passed by there on the 9th of June; so that we hope the same is now arrived in salvo, in regard there are many inhabitants of this country that are interested in it.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
p. 164.

embassador the states general
BY this post they will write to 124 of 104, that he must speak and found
protector Sweden
the 130 concerning 141, and especially represent unto him the common interest,
protector Denmark states general
which as well the 130 as 142 and the 104 have in the conservation of
Dunkirk Pillauw protector
176 and the 177; and therefore they will endeavour to induce the 130 to the
k. of Denmark alliance protector
end he may induce or dispose likewise the 142 to make an 155 between the 130,
states general Denmark for the Sound for Dantzick and the Pillauw
104 and 142 pro 175, at least pro 176 177.

Brandenburgh
I can likewise assure you, that here hath been or still is a secret envoy of 175, who
the states general
very privately hath had a conference before three of 104, where he hath proposed
the states general
and required, that 104 would be pleased to send all their maritime forces to make a diversion
Sweden the states general the protector Denmark
against 141. But to that 104 are nowise resolved, without 130 and without 142.
Brandenburgh the states general
For 175 would willingly, that 104 should draw the thorn out of the foot
Brandenburgh the states general
of 175, and that 104 should put it into their own. Likewise I can assure you,
Denmark states general
that men do perceive a kind of coldness or aversion in 142. He doth accuse the 104
of irresolution, or that they resolve, without giving any effect to their resolution. That
the states general
104 had resolved to send 10 or 12 ships of war, but they have sent but two
ships and one frigate; which do stand too and again upon the Northern Sea, which is
Denmark
nothing, and therefore that likewise 142 is obliged to think upon their preservation, &c.
Denmark Sweden
In short, they have great jealousy either that 142 is agreed with 141, or at least that
the states
he will not join with 104.

The council of state had resolved to have given reprisals against the inhabitants of
Limburgh, but Holland being now president, hath altered that. I remain

July 16, 1655. [N. S.]

Your most humble servant.

The prince of Condé to monsr. Marigny.

Vol. xxviii.
p. 156.

I HAVE seen the news, which you sent me at your departure from Brussels. I send you
a cypher, wherewith you may write me the news you receive from Rome, and what
else may come to your knowledge. I will speak to the archduke for a pass, and will
send it you with mine. If mine alone would have been sufficient, I had sent it
presently; but I will expect the rest to send them together. I have still the same af-
fection for you as you can desire.

[July 16, 1655. N. S.]

Monfr. Caillet, secretary of the prince of Condé, to Marigny.

From the camp near Cambray, July 16, [1655. N. S.]

Vol. xxviii.
p. 148.

THIS is the 3d night that I have spent without sleeping; and truly I am half resolved
never to write any more news, since I have cast up my accompts so ill about
Landrecy. Five days before it was surrendered, the governor and the master of camp,
who commanded the outworks, sent word to the archduke, and the earl of Fuenfaldagna,
that

that they could hold out three weeks longer; and in regard every body thought they would have been as good as their words, I thought I might safely write it; but it seems we are all deceived. This is all the consolation I have: hereafter I shall be more careful what I write, for I do not love to be looked upon as a forger of news. The loss of Landrecy is a great prejudice to our affairs.

Chanut, the French ambassador in Holland, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Hague, July 16, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

I HAVE no other consolation upon the letter, which you were pleased to write to me Vol. xxviii. of the 9th of this month, only that the prophecy of mr. Beverning may have its p. 180. effect, and that you will not go out of England without a happy conclusion: if it happeneth otherwise, the good intentions of the king and your conduct being justified in the sight of the whole world, we will try our fortune, as men who cannot doubt, after what we have seen for these 5 or 6 years last, but that they are in the special protection of God. I can swear two things without flattery in your behalf, and without any disparagement to the government of England, that I have not seen any body, that hath been at London during your negotiation, that hath not highly extolled your prudence, and that doth not admire that the present government of England doth treat with so little gentleness with the rest of the people of Europe. Are we then men and heirs of the good qualities of our fathers, who would not be controuled by their neighbours? I do now expect something certain by the next, for I cannot believe, that the only cause, which they do object unto you, will be received in the council of the king.

The lords states general have in their thoughts a business of high consequence in the undertakings of the king of Sweden upon Prussia. It is their interest, it is the foundation of their trade; and instead of applying themselves to this business, they amuse themselves in sending to the Swissers and Vaudois. One of the states is named, with orders to speak high to the duke of Savoy, not only to re-establish those that are driven out of their estates, but to settle them so that they may not be disturbed for the future. I am told that the provinces would not pursue this with so much heat, if they were not set on by the protector, who doth take that business to heart.

The treaty of this state with Brandenburg is not yet concluded.

I cannot omit signifying unto you a pleasant passage, which monsieur Argenson communicated unto me. The same day, or the next, that they had hung up by the foot the noble Cornaro, guilty of correspondence with the ambassador of Spain, monsieur Argenson coming home in the evening found the gondola of a Venetian gentleman overturned, and this gentleman called Dondo, rising again upon the water, he got hold of his head, and the rest of his men pulled him out, and in effect saved his life, which was going to be lost, the people presently published through all the streets, that the Spaniards had corrupted and were putting to death their nobility, and that the French had saved them.

Some malicious rogues, who cannot brook the austerity of his holiness, nor that cannot persuade themselves, that ever his design of making peace will have any effect, writ underneath the three mountains, his arms, this pasquil, *parturiunt montes, &c.*

Extract out of the Dutch ambassador Boreel's letter, wrote at Paris, July 16, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORDS,

WITH letters from Cadis of the 6th of June here is news come, how that the Vol. xxviii. English fleet under General Blake had left the Mediterranean sea, was at Gibraltar, p. 142. and expected at Cadiz within few days. From Tunis are likewise letters come, signifying, that he the said general was not yet accommodated with them; but on the contrary, was very much threatened for the burning of their nine ships in their port, which they say did not belong to them, but to the great Turk. Letters of the 27th of June from Venice do not speak of the massacre of the English at Pera.—The treaty between France and England is not yet signed. The lord protector doth defer it till he hears from Savoy, in what manner that court will treat for the re-establishing of the Vaudois in Piedmont.

General

General Blake to the protector.

Abord the George, of the Bay of Lagos, July 6, 1655.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
P. 132.

SINCE my last of the 4th instant by the Smack, a duplicate whereof comes here. I have information of great preparation with, 23. 27. 20. 39. 24. 27. 33. 25. 26. 36. 54. 50. 38. 64. 66. 24. 34. 20. ratios in Cadetz to feet for 36. 50. 22. 58. 33. 32. 37. 28. 62. 52. 20. 23. 28. 43. 38. 33. 37. 24. 38. 25. 33. 66. e t u r e t h e

68 57. 78. 55. 63. 36. 22. 24. 33. 83. 121. 68. 67. 95. 24. 22. 39. 06. 54. 38. 27. 24. plate fleet and to that end divers 34. 30. 20. 96. 54. 28. 10. 38. 33. 68. 27. 20. 38. 24. 32. 23. 23. 28. 39. 24. 36. 37. H o l l a n d and F r e n c h ships take n u p

27. 63. 30. 30. 20. 62. 81. 10. 25. 36. 54. 32. 22. 27. 121. 38. 50. 29. 82. 90. 39. 34. In pursuance of your highnes order, I have at present sent home the Pearle and Mermaid, to give the more speedy account. The rest of the ships appointed to returne, I forbear to send with them now, for a more full and frequent intelligence. I hope your highnes will pardon my boldnes in troubling you with these immediate addressees in a busines of so great consequence, and will likewise take in good part the humble repetition of my former desire, touching the three great ships, which are altogether unfit to keep the sea this next winter. I am loth to trouble your highnes with recounting the generall defects of the whole fleet; onely I am bold (seeing I have begun to be so) to make it my humble request, that your highnes will be pleased to lay your quickening commands upon the commissioners of the navy, to send us such a supply of all stores as shall be needfull, according to the time that we are to continue aboard, whereof we are already in great want; and they cannot be ignorant of it, although not so deeply sensible as your servants, who dayly feele the troubles, and feare the hazards which may follow, not out of regard to ourselves, but to the honour of our nation, safety of the fleet, and service of your highnes, which shall be ever most deare unto us. Your highnes will hereby give great encouragement to the commanders of the fleet, superadd a very strong obligation upon us all, especially

Your highnes most humble and faithfull servant,

ROB. BLAKE.

Duplicate of this comes by the Mermaid.

From col. Modyford at Barbados.

July 6, 1655.

MY DEARE BROTHER,

Vol. xxviii.
P. 134.

THOUGH I formerly gave you some account of the passadges here duringe the tyme of the fleet's stay; yet in regard I finde many disaffected people rayling at those honourable persons, and strongly designinge to send home clamours against them, I thinke it futable to my love to truth to give you a second and more full account, to the end they may be vindicated amonge al the good men of your acquaintance; of which I can give you the best account, in regard that I, as speaker of the then assembly, did transact most with them, and also as one deeply affected to the designe, did let nothinge passe without my special observation. Soone after their landing they desired the governour to dispose of the quarteringe their souldyers in such manner, as might be most easie to the people, which was done by the governour's warrant, with an engagement to pay for what they took, which out of the prize office will be accordingly satisfied. After this they desired a conference with the assemblie, at which the general and mr. Winslow very effectually opened the grounds of the designe, and clearly set forth the great advantages the nation would receive thereby, and concluded, that they expected 4000 men from hence, and did desire, that to avoid the inconveniencys, which might happen by their soldierly way of rayling them, that the assembly would present them with a list of the names of the freemen and unengaged, that so they might take no others to go on in this design, they expressing much tendernefs towards the inhabitants, and their unwillingnefs to injure them in the least. Being returned to the house, I (that thought this proposall wonderfull faire) proposed the same to the representatives, setting forth how much we were beholden to those honourable persons, for their care of keeping our servants to us, and so ingenuously dealing with us; to which, instead of a

fayre compliance, I found such a willfully imbittered party, that instead of debatinge calmly, A. D. 1653. they fel a clamouringe against the quarteringe soldyers in ther houses, ther rudenesse and misdemeanours, and would come to no conclusion but this, let them beat up drumes and take ther owne course, we wil not assiste them. After ther heate was a little abated, I told them, that it was respecte to us, not want of power in the commissioners to doe it themselves, that made them desire our assistance; and withal did let them know, that we were absolutely in ther power to order us as they listed, and that therefore it were a great imprudence to dispise the favours that could undoe us in an instant. This produced no other effecte than to desire them to beate up drumes, and in case that would not doe it, that then we would use our endeavours to discover persons fitt to make up the number. The commissioners were very unwilling to doe it that way, but seeing it could not be holpen, told us plainly, that we forced them upon that course against ther judgments, and that they were cleare of the disorders and injuryes, which might happen therby. And indeed from hence grew our losse of recruits and the departure of endebted men off the island; for though the commissioners sent out strickt warrants to ther officers not to list servants, yet ther indentures not beinge writt in their foreheads, they were by some ignorantly, and by others wilfully received, and when once they were gott into the huddle there was no findinge them. The maine sticklers in this were Hook, Johnson, and Rowse, and others formerly mentioned to you. Notwithstandinge this the commissioners did restore al servants that could be found, and also all endebted men that they had information of. Gen. Penne likewise ordered all the ships to be searched, and many were on that score returned to ther masters. But before these things happened, I did presse the assembly with the remembrance of the petition, wherein they tendred ther lives and fortunes to further his highnes designs in these parts; and how disagreeinge to that profession it would appeare, if we should doe nothinge of assistance, in order to the great buisnes in hand, which produced from them a troope of 60 horse, which cost about 240^m of Sug. which was very wel accepted of by the commissioners, and was raised, and wel mounted and shipped alonge with them. After they had beene here about a month, the commissioners were much trowbled at the stay of the storeships and ther losse of time, especially the time of raynes so neare approaching; and beinge doubtfull what might happen, caused $\frac{1}{2}$ pikes to be made in the severall parishes, to the number of 2500, which we have since paid for, and also borrowed 1500 pier armes out of our traine bands, for which also we are a paying. These armes they desired the assembly men to send in, the proportions being laid on the severall places which they served for; but it so happened that within 8 days of the departure, either by the false retourne or the hideinge of armes, or the negligence of some persons imployed, the number came not in, whereby the commissioners were enforced either to goe unarmed, or execute ther warrant by ther owne officers, in which proceeding some misdemeanours were committed by diverse of the soldyers, but every man that complayned was righted, and the soldyers punished. From hence it appeares, that our owne obstinacye was the cause of al our sufferings, which trewly I cannot apprehend to bee any way considerable, though it seemed very strange to those, that had not formerly beene used to soldyers, and begott such strange cursinge and raylinge at these men after they were gone, that it would have trowbled your eares to have heard it; but it came onely from such as were noted deboyst people, and much indebted; for the first were mightily discountenanced, and put or left out of al places of command, and the latter much afrayd of ther justice and severe directions for givinge every man his owne. This il humour after the disappointment at Domingo appeared in the assembly, headed by J. Burch, wherein it was proposd, that J. Bayes should goe home with complaints of their usadge by the commissioners; and also to desire the protector, that our governour might be under no command, but immediately his. Al those 3 proposals I opposed and alleadged, 1. that Bayes was no fitt person to be sent, in regard he was publicly condemned to breake his trust, when he was officer of receipts here, and also for his last il offices at home. 2. That I knew no cause of complainte against the commanders of the army; and that the fault was ours, if we had suffered, and not thers, in regard they offered the buisnes of ther levyes and armes to be ordered by us, which we both refused and neglected; and also, that they did alwayes punish offenders complayned of and convicted. 3. That it would be apprehended sawcinesse in us to circumscribe the supream magistrate either to persons or the way of his command, and so desired my dissent to be entered. These men findinge the strength of these reasons to be such, that it would not be carryed cleare in the howse, cunningly moved to have the assembly dissolved, and a new to be chose, which was generally agreed to, and the same readily accepted of by the governour; and the day of new elections appointed, where we mett on the 4th instant, and there I was publicly accused to be the onely man that procured the troope of horse, and this was sayd to bee my crime by mr. Sweete, one of the governour's counsyl. I replied, that I thought it a virtue in me to assist the supream magistrate in what I could; but seeinge it was thought a fault, I would not take it on myselfe alone, for 21 of the assembly joyned with me in the vote, otherwise it could not have beene an act; and also the gover-

A. D. 1655. **W**our and counsell, (among whom I was not) consented to it; to which Sweete replied, that the counsell never consented to it. After that pretty loud whispers went up and downe, that I had acted by a commission of bankrupts, and was very earnest in makinge of lawes, to enforce people to pay ther debts; al which I confessed was trew, and that they should not chuse me, if they had a minde to keepe more than was there own. Sweete that seales those commissions, and Quintin that owes many a 100^m of sug. were the cheife sticklers; and so they went to election, and chose J. Burch and Geo. Martin, who had 20 votes, and I had 19; of which I was very glad, as wel to see so many planters of my side that feared no creditors, as also that I was freed of the trowble of an assembly man. Geo. Martin was also very glad, and at that instant publicely said, I hope the knaves wil not now bee so buisye with me for the goods as they have beene. I have perswaded them much to moderation, and doe hope it wil worke with them; if not, it must fal on ther owne heads. I am, I thancke God, free of them both in person and minde. This is our present state, and what this new body wil produce you may have by the nexte. Thus you see, how I am disrelisshed for my affection to observe his highnes just commands. I have a principle in me, which I hope wil alwayes justifie me, which is to sticke to the supream majistrate in al honourable and lawful designes, and especially in this so much for the benefitt of the nation. I have formerly advised you of the settlement of the militia, and sent you a copy of the commission, as also a copy of my advice to the commissioners. I writt you also of the disappointment at Domingo. I hope you have heard of the settlement at Jameyca, which I looke on as much the better place, and doe hope the losse in the first attempt wil redound to ther benefitt and advantage in the second. Trewly I could wish as to this place some directions be sent from his highnes and counsell to command, that the proceedings in the law courts be sutable to the lawes of England. I shal by the nexte write you of ther erroneous and ineffectual proceedings, if I have time. Most of the particulars abovementioned concerninge the transactions with the commissioners are recorded; what are not shal bee substantially proved, of which be assured from

Yours.

An intercepted letter to mr. Thomas Hungerford.

SIR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. [671.]

YOURS of the 12th instant came safe to hand. I am very glad, that the Lord hath so ordered it, that you are going your journey. I wish you a prosperous voyage, and should be glad to hear of your safe arrival at the place desired. I shall punctually follow your order, as to every particular of your letter; and for mr. Turner, assure your self he shall have all due respects from me for your sake; yet so as shall not be in the least any detriment to your affairs. Pray let us hear positively, how our affairs go there, trading here being very dead, for these commodities we deal in are now a very drug. Therefore, good sir, be very circumspect what you buy, lest they lie on our hands, as those do bought last year. It is here credibly reported, the cavaliers have another design in hand. Surely they are madmen, that cannot discern the Lord hath blasted all their projects from time to time. There are divers of them secured. I desire the Lord will settle us in peace, that we may get in our estates, and be able to satisfy our creditors; and then, if there be but little left, we may follow our employments quietly, and get something for our subsistence comfortably. Divers friends present their kind love to you. They wish you, as you love yourself and partners, not to come, till you have got a considerable sum together to stop the creditors rage.

[London] July 6, 1655.

Nieuport, the Dutch ambassador in England, to the states general.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 146.

MY lords, the term of law trials ended here this week, and will not be held again before All Saints; so that most all the nobility and gentry are gone into the country. Mean while the judges are likewise set out for their respective provinces, to hold their assizes for the administration of justice there, as well in criminal as also in some civil causes. Last tuesday a proclamation was published here, whereby it is prohibited, that no body, against the ministers, that are confirmed in any living since the beginning of the parliament of November 13, 1640, by the order of the said parliament, or by the present government, shall move any law-suit, nor give them any trouble concerning those livings and benefices, which they are possessed of on that account; and that all those, who are

called to a living since the 1st of April 1653, and are not confirmed therein, nor have got any approbation, according to the ordinance lately issued, shall be obliged to relinquish the same before the last of this month. Several persons have assured me, that the collection for the oppressed Waldenses in Piedmont doth amount to above one hundred thousand pounds sterling, and that already a large sum was remitted thither. There are as yet no letters arrived here out of Savoy from mr. Morland.

The squadron of ships under the command of major general Sedgwick for a reinforcement of the fleet under admiral Penn, which sailed last week, is seen already in the mouth of the Channel. And by a small ship arrived at Kingsale in Ireland, the taking of St. Domingo is sufficiently confirmed with the same particulars. The lord protector has erected courts of justices in Ireland entirely on the same foot as those that are established here in England, and has appointed also some persons for the same, and granted commissions for the management of the finances and the great seal there. The council for the direction of the affairs in Scotland, consisting of a president and nine persons, will be appointed, as I am informed, within a few days; and they tell me, that in that country no body doth any longer openly oppose this present government, since all the Highlanders have entirely submitted themselves. Besides mr. Bonde, who is expected here as extraordinary ambassador of Sweden, they expect every day likewise an extraordinary ambassador of the republick of Venice.

They continue still with great diligence the fitting out of ships and frigates designed for the squadron, which assembles in the Downs, under the vice-admirals Lawfon and Bourne.

Wherewith, &c.

Westminster, July 16,
1655. [N. S.]

High and mighty lords, &c.

(Sign'd)

W. NIEUPORT.

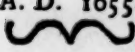
Nieuport, the Dutch ambassador in England, to de Witt.

MY LORD,

THE lord ambassador of France informed me some days ago, that upon his serious request, finally to conclude and sign the adjusted articles, the late commissioners had delivered a paper to him, containing, that the lord protector would fain see, that the exiled Waldenses were really restored; and whereas the king of France had declared, that he would do his utmost by his intercession for that purpose, he the lord protector would most heartily, *communicatis consiliis*, contribute to it on his side. And that the said lord ambassador has represented hereupon, with many reasons, that the said conclusion and signing ought not, for that reason, to be delayed, but that the lords commissioners had not any further enlarged upon it. Since that time I have spoken to several lords of the council, and observed, that they are willing to wait for letters from Savoy and Switzerland. In the mean while, having received the complaints of some masters of ships belonging to the United Netherlands, who, coming from Havre de Grace and St. Malo, were taken by some private commissioned vessels, and also by some ships of this state, I represented the same last wednesday to the lord protector, in the most serious and circumstantial terms, and laid open to him particularly the ways and tricks, which are made use of to the prejudice of the subjects of their high mightinesses. He seemed to be very much surprized at it, and declared, that he would give his speediest orders against it; and that they would call in immediately all the letters of reprisal and commissions granted to private persons; and that care should be taken, that for the future none should be granted, but with his consent and with approbation of the whole council; that he also would send for the judges of the admiralty and the commissaries of the fleet and seized effects, and let them know in serious terms, how disgusted he is at the complaints I have made him in the name of their high mightinesses. I insisted particularly upon it, that the ship called the Hare in Field, with her cargo, according to my two several memorials of the 26th of May and 15th of June last past, might be released. I delivered likewise to him their high mightinesses letters of intercession, granted at the request of mr. Peter Eese, merchant of Middleburgh, and acquainted him, that I had delivered in that behalf a memorial, with several proofs. I spoke likewise to him about the ship coming from Amsterdam with planks and deal-boards, bound for Brest in Bretagne, which was carried into Dover; and told him, that I had made and drawn up a memorial, containing the matters which I now had declared to him by word of mouth, all which I intended to deliver to the hands of my lord secretary of state; but he being indisposed, I should be glad if

his

Vol. xxviii.
p. 138.

A. D. 1655.  his highness would be pleased to let me know to whom I might best deliver the same: whereupon he told me, that he would take them himself, and procure that I should have very soon an answer upon the same; adding moreover, that he should always be well pleased, if any such affairs happened, or others, concerning the service of the United Provinces, that I would myself acquaint him with it; and that he would shew by deeds, how much he was dissatisfied, that any one of this nation should injure any inhabitant of their high mightinesses dominions. Yesterday was delivered to me the inclosed resolution and order to the attorney general, to draw up a proclamation, whereby all the letters of reprisals are to be called in; the time is left open therein, but a certain lord of the council has informed me, that their intention was, to name the 1st of August. In the afternoon the judges of the admiralty have been with their attorney at Whitehall, where the commissaries named in the said order have declared to them in the most serious terms, that the lord protector and the council require, and will, that they should as soon as possible, in the speediest way, finish all the matters of the inhabitants of their high mightinesses dominions, and cause that those complaints for the future may be prevented. Whereupon they declared very officiously, that as far as it lay in them, they would not be wanting therein. The other memorials, which I delivered to the lord protector, are delivered to mr. Jeffop, one of the clerks of the secretaries of the council, to bring in his advice, and to make his report thereof in a few days. I will, if God pleases, endeavour to bring these affairs to a good conclusion, and likewise bring it about, if possible, that the articles of the marine, which I have delivered, may once come upon the carpet.

Wherewith, &c.

Westminster, July 16,
1655. [N. S.]

My lord, &c.

(Sign'd)

W. NIEUPORT.

The examination of Edward Wayte, of Trowbridge, in the county of Wilts, gent.

Vol. xxviii.
p. 130.

SAITH, that about a week before the rising at Salisbury, mr. William Erbury of the said town, one of the sons of mr. Edward Erbury, formerly a commissioner for the late king, invited this examinee, with ten others, to a chine of beef at a miln of the said mr. Erbury's, three miles distant from the town of Trowbridge. He further saith, they resolved to hunt the hare by the way, and did accordingly. He further saith, that the said mr. Erbury, as he believeth, was secretary to the lord Seymour in the time of the wars between the late king and parliament. He saith further, that the said persons invited to the said dinner were neighbours to this examinee, that lived in and about Trowbridge. He saith, he doth not know, that any of the said party were in arms for the king, except the said mr. Erbury, as he was secretary to the lord Seymour, and saith, the reason of this invitation by mr. Erbury was, as he conceives, by way of answer to civilities received from them of the like nature. He saith further, that after they had dined, they were all apprehended and carried to Bristol by a party of major Boteler's horse, who so soon as he had spoke with them, after taking security for their appearance within three months, examined them, and dismissed them. He saith, that the names of the persons so invited, were as followeth; mr. William Erbury, mr. Edward Erbury, mr. John Wallis, mr. Henry Wallis, mr. William Brewer, mr. John Cooke, mr. Lovell, mr. John Adams, mr. Cottrell, mr. Henry Sydenham, mr. Edward Wayte, mr. Thomas Long, all then living in Trowbridge, except mr. Sydenham. He saith, he heard two of the aforesaid persons say, namely, John Wallis and John Cooke, they had served the parliament. He saith further, mr. Long, mr. Lovell, both the Wallis's, and mr. Sydenham, are kindred to the said mr. Erbury; as also that the said Edward Erbury is brother to the said mr. William Erbury. He saith, he doth not know of any other appointed meeting of the said company. He saith, that there was nothing of any publick affairs mentioned at the said meeting; and further he saith not, To the truth hereof he setteth his hand this sixth of July 1655.

This examination was taken before us.

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A letter of mr. Harris from Madrid.

SIR AND HONORED FRIEND,

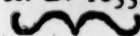
I HAVE adjusted the accompts with mr. B. D. and mr. G. F.—This is my third from this city. In my last I gave you an account of all what I had to impart unto you of importance since my departure from St. Sebastian. At present I can assure your honour, that although the state and present condition of our affairs here doth require not only much strength, but likewise conduct and expedition, we are here however, as taken with a palsy, not only doing nothing, but likewise not knowing where to begin to work; in regard that all our undertakings and ostentations, which we will make here, are as far distant from any effect, as the giants are from the dwarfs, although that it be true, that precise order is given to all the governors and officers of the sea, at Seville, St. Lucar, Cadiz, and other places, to prepare and make ready all the ships and harbours in these countries to defend themselves if need be, because that general Blake, without having made any demonstration of disgust, had placed himself just in the passage where our fleet must come from the Indies; and that since his departure from Cadiz the said general had reinforced himself of twenty ships of war, which are to come to join with him in sight of St. Lucar, where he lyes victualling and accommodating his fleet, a great cause of terror to all Andalusia especially, and not much less to all Spain, where no other is heard but sobs and lamentations from the poor people, saying generally, O God, if the English break with us, we are utterly undone and ruined for ever.

A. D. 1658.
Vol. xxviii.
P. 186.

The common conjecture is, that the fleet from the West Indies will not return this year, the king having sent an order unto them, not to put out to sea till such time as they receive further order from him. The foreign merchants, being the most part of them interested in that fleet, are not far from running mad and desperate. I writ this upon friday the 16th of July, and that which I write now is of the 17th, the importance whereof is, that twenty ships of war are to come in all hast from Naples to Cadiz to join with those which are in these parts, to the end they may have a powerful fleet to go out to affront the English, and to convoy our fleets, not that which we expect from the Indies, but others from other parts. We say here that that fleet, which we expect from the Indies, hath saved itself at Carthagen, a secure port and safe in the Indies. But for the truth of this there is no other ground seen than art and policy, because that the monied merchants will not hearken to any thing, finding themselves already reduced to all extremity, partly through their lending great sums to the king in time past, and likewise by being deeply engaged in this fleet.

Our armies do not succeed well in Catalonia, where the French have taken three places, the which although of small importance, yet they do give great fame to their progresse, and do much diminish ours, although that fortune doth not every where abandon us, for we have received letters by this post from Valencia, that our gallies, after they had fought with the French gallies in the Mediterranean, had taken four of the best of them; but of this good news we expect the confirmation by the next. Duke of Alva is designed by the king of Naples, in the place of the earl of Castiglion, who is appointed ambassador to the pope. The reason of this alteration is publicly pretended for the government to be grounded upon certain complaints made in this court by some Neapolitans, of the severeness and too much rigour of the said earl. But the true intent of this new embassy to the pope is said to be to move his holiness to undertake with a more lively resentment and zeal the definition of the contests and dissensions between this and that crown of France, that so this monarchy, being the most stable and profitable to the church, in this its weakness and lowness, do not happen to fall in danger of being a prey to the enemies thereof by the means of the general confederacy, which is treated upon (as we say) amongst them, through the intercession of the protector of England, whose power and prosperity doth render the whole world astonished.

Whilst I am writing this a merchant of good reputation tells me, that besides the twenty ships of war, which they have to come from Naples, we do expect other twenty to come from Hoiland, (that is twelve of war, and eight merchant men) commanded (as they say) by young Tromp, which, under pretence of being employed against the Turk, are to serve against the English. That the king our lord in this ambiguous state of affairs with the English, finding himself in want of money for the equipping of a fleet, is enforced to make a levy of the four millions, upon the kingdoms of Granada, Seville, and the territories of Andalusia, which sum is to be granted him with the consent of the ministers and officers of those kingdoms. Now all the difficulty doth consist in the means, that are to be used to induce them to pay it, to which end the counsellors of the said ministers have met with great sedulity for some days past. And that at last the foreign merchants, that are so much interested in the welfare of the said fleet, have already lent his

A. D. 1655.  majesty one hundred and fifty thousand crowns it will very much encourage the people to dispose themselves with all possibility to advance the service of his majesty. I could not omit to advise your honour of all these passages, that so you may conform yourself to securities. We are resolved here to make the greatest opposition we can possibly at the beginning, and amongst all this fracas we do not fail to make all usual preparations for the splendid celebration of the feast of St. Jago, partly it may be to recreate the queen, who is with child, and five months gone, and partly to conceal our necessities from the people.

This night I go for Cadiz.

Bar. Har. factor of mr. Pieter Bleffill, doth humbly desire your honour to do him the favour to let the said mr. Pieter know, and to send him suddenly money for the time he shall stay here, making the bills of exchange payable to mr. Francis Cherie, English merchant at St. Sebastian, by the means of mr. Edward Roddon at London, and writing at the time to the said B. Har. a letter of advice, directed to mr. Bartholomew Harris, merchant in Cadiz, where he will expect so long till he shall have received the commands of the said mr. Pieter, and when you will have me to go from one place to another, to take an account of mr. D. B. or G. S. you may alter the name as you please, for this is the safest way of corresponding in these parts.

Your humble servant,

Madrid, July 17, 1655. [N. S.]

JAMES CORBETT.

Endors'd by secretary Thurloe,

Mr. Harris of the 17th of July 1655, Madrid.

A copy of the amnesty proposed by the French ambassador to the protestants of the Vallies of Piedmont.

Vol. xxviii.
P. 194.

Charles Emanuel, by the grace of God, Duke of Savoy, prince of Piedmont, king of Cyprus, &c. The clemency of a good prince doth extend so far as to regard with an eye of compassion, the calamities and miseries of such as have provoked his punishment through their gross and foul failings, and who without reacknowledging the duty of fidelity and obedience, from which they fell at the beginning through the continuation of their transgressions, do rather deserve that of rigor, than to put themselves in a condition of obtaining pardon. However being desirous, at the request of his most Christian majesty, who hath oftentimes made most powerful instances unto us, and to declare to the whole world the particular respect which we bear unto him, to use the same towards our subjects of the pretended reformed religion, who having lately disobeyed our orders tending only to the reparation of unobservances and infractions of the edicts and decrees of our most serene predecessors, as it doth appear to every one that readeth the authentic declarations, reiterated from time to time, have suffered themselves to be persuaded to take up arms against our troops, and continue against our catholick subjects the acts of hostility and cruelty, which are known to every one.

By these presents of our certain knowledge, full power and sovereign authority, and by the advice of our council, we grant to all particular persons of the Vallies of Lucerne and Angrogne, likewise to the catholicks, pardon and remission of all corporal punishment, which they may have deserved, as well for having taken up arms against their sovereign, as for all other excesses and trespasses of ravishment, firing, profaning of the churches and houses, murders, and others committed of consequence, provided they return to those limits which are permitted for them to dwell in, and for the exercise of their religion; that is, namely, Angrogne, Villars, Bobi, and Rorata, giving them full remission and grace of all confiscations of all their estates, which they have in the said four places and other territories, wherein they may inhabit with safety, and exercise their religion without any molestation, according to the favourable concessions, which they have formerly had from our predecessors, especially of ours, of the decree and answer of the 2d of June, 1653, provided that they on their parts do observe the conditions contained in the same concessions and ordinances of our most serene predecessors without any contravention directly or indirectly; especially that they do not oppose nor give any trouble or vexation to any that shall celebrate the holy mass, or shall use the catholick exercise, which is to be established in conformity of the said orders, in all those places, where the exercise of the protestant reformed religion is to be made, without notwithstanding that those that profess it be constrained to assist at the same, and to give help, or shew any favour to those that shall celebrate the same. We do except out of the pardon abovementioned,

abovementioned that place and that part of the house demolished in each of the said A. D. 1655, four places, which will be necessary, and which are chosen by us for the construction of the church and house in which the catholick exercise is to be made, unless that they had rather in the said places re-establish the ancient places of the catholick churches, which are destroyed. We do moreover grant, that they may re-edify the temples in the places, and as many as are permitted, leaving demolished or demolishing the eleven built out of the limits, as was legally proved in the time of his most royal highness, Victor Amadeus, of glorious memory, my lord and father, and by him ordered at last, that in all and above all they ought to repair the contraventions made by these of the pretended reformed religion in the orders and concessions of our foregoing most serene predecessors, and observe in their behalf the last decree of June 1653. As for our subjects of the Valley of Perouse, which is subject unto us, of that of St. Martin, and of the places of St. Berthlemi, Prarussin and Rocheplatte, who, though we gave them no molestation, did take up arms in favour of those of Lucerne and Angrogne against us, and that before they received any harm in their lives and their estates by the means of their arms, they begun the first to burn the churches, demolish the houses of catholicks, the castles and palaces of their immediate lords, and to kill with much cruelty a good number of the catholicks of the said Vallies de la Perouse and St. Martin, who did not dream of doing them any harm. We do likewise pardon them those offences, and do remit them all punishment of life, and confiscation of their estates. And also to all those, whose names are set down in the catalogue of the banditti, upon condition likewise, that expedients be found for the indemnity and security of the catholicks inhabiting in the said Valley, wherein we shall endeavour to contribute all possible means. And withal they shall observe the concessions and the edicts of our most serene predecessors; and there shall be provided, that none shall be debarred of the liberty of embracing or continuing the catholick profession; and that, as well in the Vallies of Lucerne and Angrogne, as in them of St. Martin, Perouse, and other abovementioned places, our said subjects shall be bound, within eight days after the publication of this present order, to accept of the favour of this favourable disposition and pardon, and there shall be peremptorily declared within the said term, that it shall be the last, which shall be offered them by our bounty and goodness, they causing all the hostility to cease, which shall be likewise done on our part. And afterwards to proceed to the total execution of the contents in this order, with promptitude and convenient precautions, and the discharging and releasing of prisoners. And in case that those of the pretended reformed religion had rather generally sell their estates in our territories, as well those which they have gotten, and which do lie out of the limits, as those likewise which lie within the limits; so that they may not remain obliged to the conditions, which tolerations and old concessions do hold forth, and to which the present order doth oblige them, we do not only give them leave to withdraw out of our state, notwithstanding any confiscation that may be, but moreover we are willing to disburse the price of their said estates in good and speedy payments. Given at Rivoles, the 17th July, 1655. Signed,

CHARLES EMANUELL.

W. MOROZZO.

A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.

Paris, July 17, 1655.

THE 13th instant the governor of Landrecy capitulated, and the next day went out of Vol. xxviii. it according unto his composition, the enemies not daring to attempt to succour it, p. 214. and without any great loss on our side for such a considerable siege, the besieged having made but one sally, as you may see more fully by our prints.

The place hath held but 18 days of open trench, and it's said for certain that mr. le prince had soon after decamped, and parted his army in three bodies, whereof one is gone towards Rocroy, the other to Bouchain, and the third to Valenciennes. The king and all his court were to part the 15th to return to la Fere, from whence his majesty will go to Landrecy.

They continue to affirm the siege of Valence in Italy by the king's troops. But we hear ill news from Marseilles, which are, that the knight of la Ferriere being gone to sea ever since last month with five of his majesty's gallies well provided with all necessaries, the tempest had cast them in the gulf of Leon, where they had made shipwreck, and all the men therein been lost, as had been reported by the two barks coming from Cambre, one of which had brought oars, upon which the said knights arms were painted. The which loss would be very great, chiefly by reason of the great number of galley slaves which were in them.

It

A. D. 1655. It is written from Rome, that the pope doth pursue Dona Olympia for the restitution of several millions of livres, which had been put in her hands during the life of Innocent the Xth. And we hear from Turin that mr. Courfelles, who commands the duke of Orleans's regiment, and who had been sent by their highness of Savoy towards the protestants of the Vallies, having at his return made a report of all the cruelties exercised against them and by them, saying moreover, that some should answer the same before God, their said highnesses had declared, that they had only ordered the marquis of Pianeze to make those protestants pay the winter quarter they owed unto the squadron of Savoy; whereupon the said marquis, who was present with prince Thomas, having replied, that he had done nothing without express order from their said highnesses, this prince gave him the lye, and a box on the face, calling him traitor and Spaniard. I hear my lord protector's envoy has been accompanied to the said Turin by a minister of Grenoble, with the consent of the duke of Lesdiguières.

The provost of merchants of Paris, who had been called to court, is come back with orders to keep the city in peace, to which the king demands some millions for the subsistence of his armies.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to secretary Thurloe.

MONSIEUR,

Vol. xxvii.
p. 711.

VOUS verres, s'il vous plaist, par une lettre de m. de Poincy, jointe a celle cy, que s'estant embarqué a Dieppe dans le vaisseau de David Beliard, que appartient aux marchands d'Ipsic, & navige sous le pavillon Anglois pour passer avec 80 François de sa compagnie aux isles de St. Christophle, dont il a le gouvernement, apres avoir cottoye l'Angleterre sur cette confiance, que le vaisseau estant sous la protection de cette estat, & les represailles ne s'exerçant jamais entre les personnes des subjects de l'un n'y de l'autre, il ne pouvoit estre empesché dans son voyage. Neantmoins il a esté ameiné par deux fregats Angloises dans le port de Plimouth, ou il a esté mis hors de bord du dit vaisseau par violence, & menacé d'estre detenu contre toute justice, ce qui faict, monsieur, que je vous prie, de lui faire accorder par un ordre de son altesse la liberté de continuer son voyage avec ceux, qui l'accompagnera, & leurs hardes, dans le mesme vaisseau du dit Beliard appartenans aux subjects de cet estat, d'autant plus, que je croy, que vous n'ignorés pas le bon accueil, & le favorable traitement, que luy & le bailly de Poincy son oncle ont tousjours faict recevoir aux Anglois, qui navigent devers les dits isles de St. Christophle. C'est,

Londres, ce 7 Juillet, 1655.

Monsieur, vostre tres humble serviteur,

DE BORDEAUX.

Inclosed in the preceding.

De Poincy to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Plymouth, July 2, 1655.

MY LORD,

V. xxvii.
p. 579.

I Know not whether my name be known unto you; and without employing any other motives I may implore your credit to do me justice. I did embark my self aboard a vessel of David Beliard, who had two or three certificates to shew, that his ship doth belong to merchants of Ipswich, and which doth sail under English colours. Our captain did rely upon his commission, and upon his being a citizen of Ipswich. From Diepe (whence we weighed anchor) we coasted England all along as a friend; and at last we were met by some English ships, whereof two said they had commission from the state to take French ships; in full confidence, that they would let us have their company, as they had promised us at Portland, from whence the ill weather forced us away; but since we arrived here, they have put us out of our ship by force, and they do quarrel with us about the 80 French passengers, who are going to the French islands. They have used us here with much rigor; yea so far, that general Disbrowe, who is here at present, hath had in deliberation, whether he should stay me upon reprisal of some gentlemen, who they say are to be kept at Brest; and I do not yet know what they will do. I was returning to my government at St. Christopher's, from whence I came a year ago, sent for by my uncle, the bailiff of Poincy; and to see my wife, who is there. I do expect, my lord, that you will employ some of your credit with my lord protector, to get our ship discharged, that so I may continue my voyage.

My lord, your most humble and most obedient servant,

The superscription,

To my lord ambassador of France.

DE POINCY.

The

The governor of Elizabeth-Castle to the protector.

MAIE IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

I forgot in my letter to acquaint your highnes, that lieutenant collonell Lilborne hath A. D. 1655.
sent by his father-in-lawe to have his owne father come over to him. I beseech your high-
nes, if he come, that yow wil be pleased to send your commands to me, whether he shall Vol. xxviii.
speake with him alone or no; for I perceive it his desire to speake with him in secrett; P. 246.
that is the least, as I conceive. I am apt to thinke he intends also to convey some papers
by him; but that is but a conjecture of mine.

My lord, since he hath byn kept close, I have offered him to walke abroad againe
upon the platforme, that so his spirit may be a litle qualified, and the fitter to be dealt
with; but he refuseth it, except he may walke without his keeper, a dogg att his heeles,
as he calls it. I desier to know your highnes pleasure in it, before I do it. The reason
why my deputie kept him close, was, because of the ill language and threatnings. This
is all att present from,

My lord, your most humble and obedient servant,

Eliz. Castle, the 7^o of July, 1655.

ROBERT GIBBON.

Mr. Cranstrome to general major George Fleetwood.

MY LORD,

SINCE my partinge from your lordship, the secunde dey after we came from Go- Vol. xxviii.
stinberry, the lord was pleased to evidence his power by threatning a judgmente; P. 250.
and to testifie his keindnes in woarking oute our deliverance, in bringinge us to a saife
harbour. My lord, contrair to my expectationes, and notwithstandinge of all passies and
recommendationes, I am keptt upe heir at Hull, wher itt was my fortune to lande.
I can not bleame the governour, seeinge he does nothinge bot prociceutes my lord
protectore's ordores; but I will extreamly repeine att my lord imbassador and your
lordship, iff most speedaly ye woarke nott my deliverance, seeinge it was in prociceuting
his majestye's the kinge of Suedlande service nowe I suffir, at leaste, my lord imbassadores,
in assistinge his servantes to come to recyhte in ane unknoven cuntry, wher, or to whom,
bothe language and customes wer altogither ignorante. My lord, I will not mentione
with this all our leat daungeres; only for satisfactione to your lordship and his excellency,
my lord imbassadore, I shall specify this much: our shipe preuved extreamly lakishe,
and upon life and death wee wer necessitated to put in to this herbor, after the deathe
of one of the beste of the cotht horses, and that one of the blake sett. I shal at pre-
sent adde noe more, but ane earnest desire your lordship, in prociceutione of your for-
mar favoures, wold adde this, in workinge out speedaly your servantes deliverance; and
I trust foe much to your former curtasies, that iff any seceuraty be demandide, your lord-
ship will be beal for me. In doing wherof, upon the word of a gentleman, your lord-
ship shall not in the least be prejudged nor disappointed. I am, as bounde in deuty,

Hull, Jullay 8, [1655.]

Your lordship's very humbele servant,

CRANSTROME.

MY LORD,

Let me knowe with the first occasione what ye will have me to doe with your coach,
seeinge I can evry other dey have the conveniency of sending hir to Londone by sea, if
neade require.

The superscription,

*For the reight honorable generall major
Geoarge Fleetwoade, these.*

Bordeaux, the French embassador in England, to monsr. Fly, lieutenant of the
admiralty at Calais.

July 19, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

I Thank you for the continuation of your news, which are conformable to them, which Vol. xxviii.
are writ unto me from other parts. That of the taking of Landrecy was not soon P. 298.
expected in this country, where there doth not pass any thing considerable, unless it be,
Vol. III. 7 X that

A. D. 1655. that they have lately put forth a proclamation, prohibiting all those, who have been of the royal party, to sojourn at London, or within 20 miles round about, three days after this proclamation, which doth cause men to expect in a few days some new alteration in the forme of the government. The taking of St. Domingo by general Pen's fleet is not yet confirmed by the letters of that admiral.

The examination of mr. Anthony Batchelor, of Great Amesbury in the county of Wilts, inholder.

Saith,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 280.

THAT being at Salisbury at the affizes when the rebellion was there, he saw, in the party of the risers, mr. Thomas Rutter, of West Cholderton in the aforesaid county, and heard him called at that time, by some of the said rebels, quartermaster general, he having then about him sword and pistols; which said Rutter, as hath been credibly informed by one of his neighbours, namely, Robert Collier, was, about three weeks since, seen to be at his home in Cholderton aforesaid; unto the truth whereof I set my hand this 9th of July, 1655.

ANTHONY BATCHELOR.

Since this information the said Rutter hath been searched for, but cannot be found.

The examination of Richard Rowe, of Hornisham in the county of Wilts, turner.

Saith,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 294.

THAT he was invited by esquire Willoughby, of Westnowell in the said county, to come to his house to make trenchards, &c. about which work he was employed for about two months or a quarter of a year before the rising at Salisbury; in which time, about 14 days before the said rising, he observed a meeting of diverse gentlemen at the said mr. Willoughby's house, to hunt the fox, which meeting continued for the space of a week, as he remembreth. He saith, they hunted the fox in the day time, and danced in the night, having a fidler with them. He further saith, that most of them wore swords at the said meeting. The names of the gentlemen are as followeth: captain Butler of Henley in the county of Dorset, and his brother; mr. Hollis of Moncton in the county of Dorset; mr. Langford in the county of Dorset; mr. Hide of Hatch in the county of Wilts; mr. Green, junior of Meere in the county of Wilts, in the late rebellion at Salisbury; mr. John Murvin, of Portwood in the county of Wilts; mr. Dorrington of East Burton in the parish of Meere. He further saith, that he observed the said captain Butler, mr. Edward Hide, and mr. William Stowerton, son of the lord Stowerton, to have been severally at the said mr. Willoughby's house at other times a little before the said hunting match. This examine further saith, that the said mr. Willoughby bought a very lusty white stone-horse, of a great price, with cropt ears, a month or six weeks before the rising, which we heard say was to be rode at the hunting match. But this examine did not observe, that the said horse was rode by any body at the said match. This examine further saith, that the said mr. Willoughby and his wife, sent with mr. Green, senior, of Meere, and his wife rode upon the sabbath day to Salisbury, the day before the rising there. He saith further, that the said mr. Willoughby was tried for his life, as being one of the risers at Salisbury. He saith, that the great stone-horse was from home during the time of the rising at Salisbury, for two or three days; and that mr. Willoughby, who came home on monday at night, the day the rising was (with a sword by his side) did not ride home on the same horse; but the said horse came home the night following; and whether mr. Willoughby and his wife rode him to Salisbury, he knoweth not. This examine further saith, that he was invited by mr. Willoughby, to come to his house the evening before the rising at Salisbury, being the sabbath day, upon pretence to go along with him to look upon trencher-work early the next morning, some twelve miles off. And this examine coming accordingly, mr. Willoughby was gone to Salisbury two hours before he came; whereupon this examine set up his horse in the stable, and the same night the groom run away with this examine's horse after his master to Salisbury. He saith further, that the said groom came home on thursday night, without this examine's horse; and so soon as he came home, he went away, and cannot be heard of since. And further this examine saith not, but to the truth hereof setteth his hand, the 9th day of July, 1655.

This examination was taken before ———

The mark of RICH. [R.] ROWE.

Farmer

Farmer King of Maiden Bradley informeth, being by at the trial of the prisoners at Sarum, that one Arthur Elmes, one of the risers party, swore to the grand jury, that the abovefaid mr. Willoughby was at Blandford amongst the cavaliers; whereupon the grand jury found the bill; but the said Elmes not coming into the petty jury, he was quit by proclamation, and is now at liberty. A. D. 1655.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg, to the protector.

HONORABLE SIR,

BY the last post I gave an accompt to his highness and yourselfe of the proceedings of Vol. xxviii. Townley and his partie, notwithstanding his highness letter, and the advice of the p. 302. company at London. It's much against my minde, that I am soe troublesome about this petit affaire, but findinge his highnes honnour as well as my own soe deeply engaged before strangers, I cannot doe less then my dutie, to let you know, how they carry the matter; and therefore least the last post should have miscarried, I here inclose copies of these letters and papers, and a short letter to his highness, which be pleased to deliver with the first opportunity, as I hope you did the last. I shall not further trouble you, but rest assured of your favourable respect in assistinge my suitable vindication, or to procure his highness command for my returne, wherein you will very much oblige,

Hamburg, July 10, 1555.

Sir, your very humble servant,

RICHARD BRADSHAW.

Theise men are very mutable, for whilst I am sealinge, one tells me, that they will not send away their letter to his highness till next post. I inclose you a copie of a paper delivered me by some of the well affected merchants, which in the haifty transcribinge hath some lapses of the pen in it. Pray peruse it, and at your next oppertunity acquaint his highness with it.

I must needs advertize you that 913. 550. 728. must 537. 944. 418. 833. 431. 346. 831. 673. 944. 541. 2. 587. 944. 513. 492. 561. 560. 418. Captaine Guinn and one colonell Halfey, lately come from England with the lord Wilmot, 47. 913. 587. went from hence tuesday last. The lord Balcarres will be here this night; and you shall heare how all goes, as there is occasion; but pray be mindfull of your promise to

Your most humble servant,

T.

The import of this is, that special care be taken aboute his highness person, there being 2 more gone from Collen to assassinate him, if they can.

July 9.

An intercepted letter.

Cologne, July 20, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

IT is to be wished that you are fully provided in all matters, and that you confer with Vol. xxviii. little Will, and bring me his opinion. I long to see mr. Smalwood, and know not that p. 308. in my life so convenient a time may befall me. I will do all I can to satisfy you at meeting, which will be precisely the last of this month at Cales. Struggle with your impediments for the love of your countrymen, that will help you all they can another time: adieu.

The superscription,

*To mr. John Fleming, at the Unicorn-Imm
in Holborn.*

An

An intercepted letter to mr. Thomas Brookes, under the name of mr. William Matthews.

July 20, 1655. [N. S.]

DEAR SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
p. 316.

THOUGH this place affords not any news at present, yet I could not omit writing, to certify you, that all our friends through mercy are in reasonable good health. The lieutenant is out of town. Mr. Rich telleth me there is not any news. He with the rest present their love to you, and think it needles to write till they hear from you; however, I knowing how acceptable a line is from friends at such a distance, have writ, though of business can say no more than was in my last, unto which I refer you.

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 324.

MY brother Cromwell being thorough mercye safely arrived, I find he hath his military commission bearing date about September last; but though I had the three pounds a day formerly, yett by the last establishment it was reduced, and only the ten pounds a day continued; and therefore I desire you will procure the counsell's orders, that his pay may be established from the date of his commission, otherwise the tresurers at warr will not allow thereof, but money at present issued only on account. I could wish (if his highnes intends any thing shal be done, either as to the armye's reducement, or setting up the courts of justice before I goe for England) it might be suddenly sent, for after the middle of September my wife will not be fitt for travell. I beleave it will be expected, that an issue will be put to both these things, before I leave this place. My time in regard to my wife's condition being but short, makes me the more to presse for a resolution, who am

Your affectionate freind and servant,

July 11, 1655.

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

A Letter of intelligence from the Hague.

Saturday, July 17, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxviii.
p. 230.

THERE was none but Holland alone almost, that was against the orders of the council of state, for making retorsion against the country of Limburgh. Holland did conclude very well, that the retroacts should be perused; and that in the mean time all things should remain in the same condition, but the orders of the council of state are already sent; and they do presuppose that those orders are gone far, yea that they are already put in execution.

They will finally resolve this day in the assembly of Holland concerning the alliance with Brandenburg; and fearing lest that might give offence to the protector, they have resolved to write to the lord embassador Nieuport to communicate the same to the protector, and to let him know, that they were fain to do it to countermine the design of Sweden, and to invite him to join in the alliance to be made with Denmark against the designs of Sweden.

July 19.

Those of Holland (although funday) did resolve or rather conclude in the assembly of the states general, (although almost all alone without the consent of the other provinces) that the retorsion against those of Limburgh shall be suspended, and this resolution was insinuated yesterday, without resumption, to the president of the council of state. But the said council do but laugh at it, having sent away their orders already to do the same.

There hath not been yet any thing mentioned to day in the assembly concerning the treaty with Brandenburg, although the same was prest in the behalf of the elector. Now there is advice come, that captain Tromp hath five ships under him at sea, sailing towards the North and towards the Sound.

July 20.

From the college of the admiralty at Amsterdam are come three commissioners Vander A. D. 1655.
 Houve, Herberts, and secretary de Wilde: they have had audience of the states general, and made complaint, that they do not receive any money to finish the building of the new ships, demanding 252,000 guilders. They have begun to debate about the present to be given to the young prince of Tarante. They have proposed a present of 2000 * 200 l. sterl. guilders, in a silver bason, and 1000 guilders per ann. Holland spoke of 500 † guilders † 50 l. sterl. per ann.

The treaty with Brandenburg will be at present in the hands of those of Amsterdam. The taking of St. Domingo doth not please those of Amsterdam. Most do hold it for a tale; and if it be taken, that the English will not be able to keep it. They are to confer again with the lord Rosenvinge, concerning the Baltick affairs.

July 21.

The council of state being required to advise upon the memorandum of the lord ambassador of Spain, hath drawn up, and this day exhibited a very long writing, containing a whole narrative and deduction or reasoning of what and for what they have ordered to make retorsion against those of Limburgh; although that yet the same is only a summons. The substance of the narration is, that before God and men they are obliged to vindicate the right of this state by the retorsion. The time failed to day to read it, but to morrow it will be produced to be read.

Holland likewise hath been summoned to declare themselves concerning the treaty with Brandenburg. Whereupon those of Holland made answer, that to morrow they should be ready to produce their advice.

Prince Maurice hath been heard before commissioners, and hath made report of the bad condition he found the horse in, and that, in a word, neither the men nor the horse were worth any thing.

To those of the admiralty of Amsterdam those of Holland have signified and promised to furnish the necessary money for the building of the ships.

July 22.

Concerning the education of the young prince of Orange, those of Zealand did exhibit lately a writing. Upon that those of Holland did answer, that therein was already provided, and that that care belonged to the tutor and governesses. Item, to his council ordinary and extraordinary; and when they failed of their duty, that there were god-fathers, who, according to Christian duty, would take care.

Holland hath also named commissioners to examine the proposition of those of Overysfel lately made unto them.

The difference of Gorcum is as good as accommodated. There are certain satisfactions (in effect ceremonious and imaginary) given to the court; the rest is in the hands of the gentlemen, Cant, Moons, and de Raet, to accommodate the same.

The lord Beverning hath again seen the lord Rosenvinge, communicating unto him, that the state had writ to the lord Nieuport, to sound the protector concerning the preparations of the Swedes, and that they did still desire to know what the king of Denmark had answered to the Swedish minister, in regard he had admonished the king not to suffer any foreign ships in the Sound; whereupon the lord Rosenvinge did reiterate, not to know properly any thing; but that the king his master hath great cause to look after his own business, and his preservation; and that upon this state there is so little ground to be made, in regard, that having resolved to send 10 or 12 men of war at the beginning of April and May, there are hardly five ready at present; and that it were better to keep those five where they are, than to suffer them to be beaten by the Swedes.

Yer I know very well, that the Danes do incite Holland very much to set forth a great fleet to maintain Prussia, or otherwise that the Swedes will drive all the trade of Holland to the English and others, in giving great exemption to others, and by laying the burthen upon the Hollanders.

Those of Holland and Zealand are to introduce this day the lord president Pau into the high council.

The lord of Beverweert is appointed to accommodate the quarrel between the earl of Flodrof and monsieur Dorp, who were ready to go to cuffs on Sunday last before the queen.

Bordeaux to his son, the French ambassador in England.

July 22, 1655. [N. S.]

MY SON,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
p. 330.

I Cannot satisfy myself with your abode any longer in London after such positive orders for your retreat; but not knowing any certain news of the intentions of the court, which I suppose may be altered since your last orders, I cannot give you any counsel, you must take it according to the knowledge of the state of all things, and I conceive that you ought to consider the silence of the king, to be a sufficient ground of distaste against you for not following directly the orders which are sent you, so that you do pass in their opinions for a man too young and incapable of the management of so great a business. In short you are generally blamed here to suffer such delays in the signing of your treaty; and it is ridiculous for you to give so much credit to their discourse, wherein they have so often failed you. I can add no more at present, having been from home these five or six weeks.

An intercepted letter from R. Whitehouse to mr. Brookes.

London, July 12, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 33.

I Received yours, and delivered the enclosed. The parties concerned seemed to be satisfied; and I doubt not, but that the instrument is in much better tune than it was. It hath and shall be my endeavour to hinder any breaking out to the hurt of our neighbours. I have acquainted the merchant with your intentions. Mr. K. hath been out of town these three weeks, but by the next you will hear of him. There is order taken about the H. it shall come up with all speed. I shall not further trouble you, but to let you know, &c.

The examination of Thomas and Edward Carter, of Enford, in the county of Wilts.

Vol. xxviii.
p. 282.

THOMAS and Edward Carter, of Enford, in the county of Wilts, inform, that on Sunday before the rebellion at Sarum, there met at Mr. Clarke's of the said Enford, who was engaged in the said rebellion, one Mr. Henry Mills of Netherhaven, and Mr. Scardivill of Feilding in the said county, both which persons stayed at the said Mr. Clarke's till it was late in the evening that day, but their business there these informers know not. This information was taken July 12, 1655. per me,

THOMAS SAVADGE.

The said persons, namely Mr. Mills and Mr. Scardivill, were taken up by the sheriff of Wilts as suspected upon the insurrection, and have given in bond to him to appear before his highness or council when called.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 338.

I THINK I omitted in my former letters to give you notice, that I sent him along with his highness horses a couple of Neapolitan groomes to dress, govern, and look to them by the way, for which they are to have now Naples ducats a man per month, so long as they shall be deteyned in attendance of the said horses. When you discharge them, their passage is to be given them free for Naples. These are mere salary men, and in no other manner you may please to look upon them. The ducat of Naples is worth about 5 s. and 6 d. by exchange.

The Spanish affairs in the duchy of Milan grow worse and worse. The French and Modenes are now joined, and make up near 25,000 fighting men. They are within 3 miles of the city of Milan. The Spaniard, that could make ten thousand, now cannot find six thousand soldiers at his command. 'Tis said they have given arms to about 30 thousand citizens and fryers, who 'tis thought, if the French will let them make an Italian prince of their own choosing, will be the first to drive out the Spaniard from Naples. 'Tis advised 20 ships and 16 galleys are on departure towards Porto Longone, where they are to meet 10 sail of other ships from Spain, who are to join together, and wait the motion of the French

French fleet; others say they are to go for Cattalonia. I believe the exigency of the Spanish affairs have need of their help in more places than one. The sudden loss of Landres, a town of so great import in Flanders, doth much lessen the Spanish credit in Italy. 'Tis most certain, that the five French galleys, which carried soldiers lately for Cattalonia, were all lost in their coming back, many pieces of their wreck being daily taken up about Sardinia. There could not be less than 400 men in each gally.

Here is arrived in town one doctor Bayly from Rome, which was reported to be sent thither by his hymnes, and is now come hither for credit. I am,

Right honorable,

Leghorn, July 23, 1655. [N. S.]

Your most faithful servant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

An extraordinary post came this week from Madrid, with news how general Blak behaved himself in a kind of hostile way. 'Tis very probable this post may carry order to seize upon our nation at Naples.

An intercepted letter.

Calais, July 23, 1655. [N. S.]

DEAR COUSIN,

Yesterday there came to this town a cousin of your nephew's, and I have already received a summons to remove from hence: however I conclude not to stir till Monday comes. If I see you not by that time, you shall understand by the master of the house at the sign of the Ship, whither you are to steer your course, which will not be much further than this place. I suppose my Sunday's friend is returned to your parts; if so, desire him to let your master, if occasion be, know where to find him. I would desire you how to contrive a course to write to Stephen: desire your nephew not wholly to credit the gentleman, who presented me with a cheese. I should be glad to see your nephew. Good cousin, God send us a good meeting.

The superscription,

Stephens to Mrs. Weldon, at the three Pigeons in Hart Street.

The prince of Condé to Monsieur Barriere, his agent in England.

From the camp near Mons, July 23, 1655. [N. S.]

I HAVE nothing news to send you, but the siege of Capelle; there are 1000 foot in the place, and besides Monsieur de Bouteville, who is at Avesne with a flying camp, hath flung into it two regiments of dragoons, under which are fifty French officers. This is enough for so small a place as Capelle. The governor whereof is Monsieur de Chamilly, a gallant man, who defended Stenay the last year, whereof the counterscarp alone lasted 21 days, having but a handful of men to defend it.

I cannot yet write you an answer by this post upon the subject of 64. 88. 55. 70. 42. 66. 92. p. 32. but without fail by the next.

Chanut, the French ambassador in Holland, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Hague June 23, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

MY lord Nieupoort, in his letter of the 16th to the states general, hath writ, that he knew that the lord protector had taken the resolution, and likewise had caused an order to be made for the calling in of all letters of marque, from whence they do conclude here that our treaty is infallible. First, I consider that Mr. de Nieupoort knew this particular (if it be true) and it had not been communicated unto you. In the second place, I perceive

A. D. 1655. perceive the trouble you have had to agree the article, which doth concern those of the religion in France, and the fervency which the lord protector doth declare in the business of Savoy, and in the end that the English assailing the Spaniards in the Indies doth cause men to believe that they will have a peace with us. And of all this I do frame an imagination, that the lord protector removing the difficulty, which did trouble us, by causing the letters of marque to cease, and being assured that if he take no more of our ships, that we will not declare open war with him, according to the opinion which he hath of it, he will defer henceforward, more and more, the signing of the treaty, and will not be angry that you withdraw, without concluding at present, and tell you, that you may return to make an end when those businesses, which do hinder it at present, will be more clear. But my lord, I wish the contrary, and that you may finish your treaty without making any return.

Count Brienne to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

La Fere, July 23, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 364.

YOUR letter of the 15th, which came to hand but late last night, I shall have answered in few words, having only to tell you, that by my last I gave you to understand, that his majesty doth very much long to have you make an end of your negotiation, and cannot suffer any longer delays without prejudice to his honour, nor can we think of any provisos than what we have already made known unto you. I do very much wonder, that the lord protector hath not yet had any news of his envoy into Piedmont. He hath been very well received there, likewise he did speak very civilly, and it is likely, that the business that brought him thither will be accommodated, if the Hugonots of the Vallies, who are driven from thence, will be contented with reason.

The king goes for Guise within a day or two. We shall know what will be resolved on at the council of war, which is to be held in his presence. I pray do me the favour to obtain the freedom of monsieur Lauviliers Poincy, cousin to the general de Poincy, of the island of St. Christopher, who was taken aboard a French ship, and is brought into Plymouth.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to Lionne, the French ambassador at Rome.

MY LORD,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 370.

I WILL assure you likewise, that on my part there shall happen no interruption in our correspondence; and to the end that it may be the freer, although my abode here in England is very uncertain, I will not fail to send you a character by the next post. I can in the mean time tell you, that my negotiation is still in the same condition, and hindered by the same considerations, which my foregoing have signified unto you. And that the protector doth pretend to send into Switzerland to confer with the protestant cantons, about the means to re-establish with security the inhabitants of the Vallies of Angrogne, &c. before he will come to a conclusion. It may be his offices will be prevented by those of his majesty, and the accommodation will be made, if the said inhabitants do become obedient.

We have here yet no certain news of the landing of admiral Penn. The reports thereof are various; some say, that he is beaten, others, that he hath taken St. Domingo. Blake's being upon the coast of Cadiz doth likewise give jealousy there.

As for the affairs of England, here do still appear some small agitations, the chiefest of the nobility being imprisoned, the meaner sort are sent out of the town 20 miles from hence. These precautions are attributed to some conspiracy discovered against the government. In the mean time, men do expect with impatience to know the intentions of the protector. He hath seemed to recall the private letters of marque against the French, and this in favour of the lords of Holland. It were to be wished, that this revocation were general.

July 23, 1655. [N. S.]

Nieuport,

Nieuport, *the Dutch ambassador in England, to the states general.*

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

MY lords, since my last several lords and gentlemen, who were secured in sundry places, are dismissed to their houses and habitations; and in the beginning of this week came out the inclosed proclamation or ordinance of the lord protector, whereby it is ordered, that those that have headed the party of the king, or his sons, or have assisted them willingly and knowingly, shall withdraw themselves from London and Westminster, and all places that are 20 miles round about the same, and repair to those places where they are born, except those that are used to live constantly with their families in the said places and districts. And all officers are earnestly commanded to keep constant search, and to make a strict enquiry, if the said ordinance be contravened, and those that afterwards shall be apprehended, shall be punished as disturbers of the publick authority. I am informed, that letters from Tunis, of the 2d of July, import, that the dey and bashaw have at length settled affairs with some English merchants, after the departure of admiral Blake; and that one mr. Woodhouse is again admitted there as consul of the English nation. I am told further, that the East India company here has got letters from Persia, intimating, that a certain person was arrived at the court of the king of Persia, who pretends to be an ambassador of king Charles, to demand, as it is said, the duties of the toll at Ormus. The same was called formerly sir Henry Band, but now he is titled lord Bellamont. Among the merchants here at the Exchange, there is news, that the stay of admiral Blake upon the coast of Spain causes great jealousy; and some are afraid, that the effects of the merchants of this nation will be seized; but they are already forewarned, a great while ago, that they should not hazard much money in those parts. Concerning the taking of St. Domingo in Hispaniola, or any other enterprises in the Spanish West Indies, there is no further news nor confirmation arrived here since my last. The governor of Hull has written to the lord protector, that a Swedish ship, having on board fifteen or sixteen horses, and some of the baggage of the lord ambassador Bonde, had been forced by storm to make that harbour.

Major general Fleetwood arrived here on tuesday last. And by this present east wind it is daily expected, that the said ambassador will be here very soon himself.

Mr. Coyet told me, that he was to lodge in part of the house of the earl of Dorset, which he had hired for three months.

I am informed, that the quarter-master-general of the camp, mr. Downing, is to set out one of these days for Savoy, to settle a certain regulation, concerning the distribution of the money collected here for the poor Waldenses; and that doctor Whistler will be sent to the king of France.

Wherewith, &c.

Westminster, July 23,
1655. [N. S.]

High and mighty lords, &c.

(Sign'd)

W. NIEUPORT.

Nieuport, *the Dutch ambassador in England, to the states general.*

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

MY lords, doctor Godofridus Snellius, counsellor and magistrate of the city of Alckmaer, has delivered me your high mightinesses letter of the 7th instant on the 20th following; and whereas I had heard nothing at all of the seizure of the ship called the House of Shuyden, which is mentioned at large in your high mightinesses said letter, I enquired immediately, whether notice touching the same was given to the government or the court of admiralty here, and found, that by way of notification only, in the court of admiralty it was reported, some days ago, that captain Thomas Amyes, being a private ship with a commission, had carried into Guernsey a ship belonging to the subjects of France, called, *les trois Marchands*, without any thing further being heard of it: but, upon nearer application, I was informed, that one captain Philips here was the chief owner of the said commissioned vessel, and that a certain young man, who has been super-cargo of the aforesaid ship, the House of Shuyden, was arrived here. That the same person had told, that the master of the said ship had pacified the said captor with a sum of money; and that he with the said ship and cargo was released, and failed to pursue his voyage. And, in order to get the better information of what has happened, yesterday a particular friend has written to St. Malo. I have enquired, for two days running, after the said captain

VOL. III.

7 Z

Philips,

A. D. 1655. Philips, to hear what advice or information he might have received, or what pretension he can make against the said ship and cargo; but hitherto I have not been able to find him out. In the mean while, I assure your high mightinesses, that I will assist the said interessed to the utmost of my abilities.

Westminster, July 23,
1655. [N. S.]

Wherewith, &c.

High and mighty lords, &c.

(Sign'd)

W. NIEUPORT.

An intercepted letter from mr. Leo. Williams to mr. Thomas Brooks.

London, July 13, 1655.

DEAR SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 62.

Although I have no very great hopes, that this shall come to your hands, yet I had rather be thought impertinent than negligent, especially by yourself, who have done so many favours for me, and from whom I expect so much constant employment from you abroad, if God send you and your estate well home. Your promise, I hope, you will not forget, any more than I do to pray for our prosperity. And now I have no business, I must crave pardon, if I trouble you with a little of our country news, some of which is very good, as the banishment of all cavaliers from the city for three months, and the securing the chiefest of them in the countries; so as 'tis hoped now, we shall have all peace at home, and with our next neighbours the French; but the Spaniard will be cozened, if he thinks, there is no more to do, but to go to the Indies, and fetch home gold. I have no more to present you with at present, but the good news of all your friends health.

An intercepted letter from mr. Thomas Somes to mr. Thomas Brooks.

July 13, 1655.

SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 64.

I Received yours, that told us, you were just going your intended voyage for the perfecting all accompts with your creditors in Spain, which I do very well approve of, and shall be very glad to hear you end well there; for 'tis much doubted, the breach will be so wide there, as it will not long be hid. The treaty with France is in a very good forwardness, and expected suddenly to end in peace: therefore if you think fit, you may order your trade accordingly. I have little more to inform you than what I wrote the last week. We hope our trade will be good, because we are quiet, and like to be so: for his highness takes a short way to prevent all disturbances; all the old malignants being either in custody, or confined not to come within 20 miles of London. And sure all others will be in time satisfied; for if we thrive in the West Indies, as it is much hoped, there will be enough for every man.

The Venetian resident to the protector.

SERENISSIMO SIGNOR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 368.

LA serenissima repubblica di Venetia, che hà sempre conservata sincera l'intencione per la buona corrispondenza sempre havuta con l'Inghilterra, et che sempre con particolare contento hà inteso i prosperi successi di questo stato, ne quali il gran valor dell'altezza vostra hà havuto la parte principale, et meritevolmente l'hà habilità nel grado di suprema stima, et autorità nella quale è universalmente riconosciuta; mi hà ultimamente commesso di dover riconfermare all'altezza vostra, questi suoi sinceri sentimenti, et di più aggiongerle, che à testimonio conspicuo della perseverante volontà della serenissima repubblica di nudrire, et di augumentare una buona perfetta amicitia, con l'altezza vostra li haveva destinato per suo ambasciator straordinario l'eccellentissimo signor cavalier Sagredo che di Francia doverà passare all'altezza vostra accioche nella vicinanza, & nel comodo d'essequirsi dall'eccellenza sua gl'ordini publici resti con la prontezza maggiore comprobata la stima della serenissima repubblica, verso il merito sublime dell'altezza vostra,

la quale persuasa dal suo zelo pietoso, e generoso confida l'eccellentissimo senato, mostrerà A. D. 1655.
disposizione, e risoluzioni affettuosa per giovare a gl. interessi della sua giusta guerra
contro turchi nemici comuni, il che come servirà al bene di tutta cristianità, così
per l'operato di già dall'armi di vostra altezza sono, e saranno all'Inghilterra presente
eterne li glorie, et al gran nome dell'altezza vostra continui gl. applausi, e le benedizioni.

Londra li $\frac{1}{2}$ Luglio, 1655.

Humilissimo devotissimo servitor,

Lorenzo Pauluzzi residente di Venetia.

The Venetian ambassador to the protector.

SERENISSIMO SIGNOR.

Principal commissione impartitami dalla serenissima repubblica di Venetia, è quella di Vol. xxviii.
rappresentar a vostra altezza, come piace à Dio, che doppo undeci anni d'ostinatissima p. 694.
guerra, ella faccia scudo à tutta la Christianità, è sola resista alla prepotenza de Turchi.
Questi infedelissimi barbari, che non hanno per fine, che l'oppressione del christianesimo
moltiplicano, i, sforzi per soggiogare interamente il regno di Candia, Antemurale
dell'Italia, è porta, per dove l'insidiosa forza Turchesca può spingerzi all'oppressione della
miglior parte dell'Europa.

Per anco quella principal isola combatte, è resiste, ma il total' abbandono, nel quale
viene lasciata da principi Christiani; la forza potente de' Turchi, è la lunghezza della
guerra, che infaichisce sempre più il vigore della repubblica, dano gran soggetto à dubi-
tare, che anco quel regno Christiano non habbia, dà, finalmente aggiungerli à tanti altri,
che gemono sotto il pesante giogo Turchesco, che la forza, per altro, grande, è vasto
dell'Ottomano, non divenga per questo nuovo considerabil' acquisto formidabile, et
insuperabile.

La difesa costante, che la sola serenissima repubblica hà fatto sin' hora, contro un monarca
così potente, è un lume posto da Dio inanzi à gl'ochi della Christianità, per che
conoscano i principi, esser questo il vero tempo di liberar dal giogo tanti migliaia de
Christiani, è di riscatar le più belle provincie del mondo dalla schiavitù, che le incatena.

Il zelo, che vostra altezza, tiene per la fede Christiana, quella pietà, è quella religione,
che sono, i più belli freggi, che adornino il suo generosissimo animo, allumeranno quel
santo fuoco, che accenderà il suo gran coraggio, è che darà il fillo alla sua valorosissima
spada, che non può combatter più gloriosamente, quanto à favore dell'evangelo.

Non verrà mai congiuntura più propizia per abbattere l'impero Ottomano, mentre
stanco sotto il peso d'undeci anni di guerra, diretto dal consiglio di femine; esausto
di soldati, di denaro, se malamente può resistere alla sola repubblica, è argomento in-
fallibile, che converrebbe cedere alla forza, et all'armi vittoriose di vostra Altezza.

Ella non può render immortale il suo nome, ne coronare di maggior gloria, le ultime
attioni della sua vita, quanto col inviar una flotta de vascelli di questo stato, che unita
all'armata della repubblica, accorri à far scudo alla fede Christiana violentemente insidiata
dalla prepotenza Turchesca. Una piccolia parte delle gran forze maritime, che Dio
hà date all'Inghilterra, può aggiunger tanto vigore al Christianesimo, che trionfi dell'Otto-
mana impietà. Et una attione così illustre, è così eroica, come quella di dimostrarli
l'unico difensore dell'evangelo, è loppugnatore dell'infedeltà, porterebbe il nome di vostra
altezza, al posto più rilevato di gloria, è d'applauso, è coronerebbe la sua spada
d'immortal glori.

L. P. R. di Venetia.

The Venetian ambassador to the protector.

SERENISSIMO SIGNORE,

Mi è stata à mesi passati consignata una raccomandatione di vostra altezza à favore Vol. xxviii.
d'un capitano di nave Inglese. Ne scrissi con efficacia, e non ostante le angustie, p. 698.
che per ordinario accompagnano una lunga guerra, hà egli di già conseguita una parte
del suo credito in testimonio della stima, che la Repubblica fa delle raccomandamenti di
vostra altezza, e del desiderio ch'ella tiene di dargli ogni più aperto argomento di sua
affettuosa disposizione verso di lei.

Si terminò pure la campagna in Levante con disvantaggio de Turchi, et oltre gli acquisti
fatti nel combattimento all'imboccatura de Dardanelli; la presa, et il saccheggiar della
Piazza del volo, se gli son prese due galere con apprestamenti di guerra, e diversi altri
vascelli,

A. D. 1655. vascelli, che solcavano il mare, non lasciando sua divina maestà di far spiccare la sua divina clemenza, col dar modo alla repubblica di far scudo à tutta la forza Ottomana, e di sostener sola le ragioni del Christianesimo tutto. Piaccia a Dio, che altre volte istillo nel coraggio di vostra altezza, la distruttione de corsari gloriosamente battuti dalle di lei flotte in Algeri, di valersi altra volta della sua spada, a difesa dell' evangelo, et ad' oppressione della Turchesca barbarie.

E solito che gl' ambas^{ti} portano le doglianze de mercanti sudditti del prencipe, che rappresentano, per le perdite fatte, sopra le navi Olandesi prese nella passata guerra. A me tocca rappresentare a vostra altezza che il carattere d' ambas^{te} non hà potuto essentarmi dalla perdita di due colli di mobili da uso caricati sopra una nave Olandese, et incaminati in Amsterdam per parigi dove mi trovavo ambas^{te}, qual restò preda delle flotte di questo stato, come vostra altezza resterà pienamente informata dalla lettera scritta da me al parlamento in data 7 Febraro 1653. e dalla risposta dello stesso parlamento 23 Marzo che faranno in copia.

Circa la qual risposta concernente, che quelli' ch' hanno havuta la nave in consegna, hanno detto di non haver ritrovati sopra, i miei colli, tre cose devo rappresentar a vostra altezza.

La prima, che se sono stati divisi, e venduti, non è meraviglia, che non si siano ritrovati, certa cosa essendo, come per fede del mercante, che li hà caricati, e del suo corrispondente d'Amsterdam ch' hebbe l'ordine di riceverli, che si trovavano nella nave, quando fù presa; e come si può vedere dal libro del Carico, che si trova appresso l'amiralità di Londra. E quando anco si desiderassero prove maggiori, assicuro vostra altezza, che una parte delli sodetti miei beni si trova in qualche casa di Londra; essendovi testimonii di questa nazione, che fanno, cosa à stato fatto de sodetti miei colli.

La seconda, che non v'era pur' un' huomo in tutta la Francia, che non credesse, ch' io dovesti esser il primo ad' ottener la restitutione del mio, trattandosi di cose da uso appartenenti ad' un ambas^{te}, che secondo la pratica del mondo, sono tenute per sacre, e trattandosi di valente di poca consideratione, mentre le mie perdite non ascendono, che al valore di cento cinquanta lire sterline, quali mi premono molto più per l'essempio, è per il torto fatto al carattere di ministro publico, che per il poco valore, che contengono.

La terza ch' hò sempre creduto, che li particolari sodetti non siano mai pervenuti all' orecchie di vostra altezza notami per altro, la sua infinita bontà, è la cortesia praticata da lei co ministri de' prencipi.

L. P. R. DI VENETIA.

Lord chief justice St. John to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

I Spoke to his highnes about the Custos brevium office. He likte the motion; he likewise gave way for your running to grasse a fortnight or 3 weekes in August, which I beseech you make use of. I shall, God willing, bee about Thorp about the middle of August; and if your circuite be that way, it would be great contentment to me to meete you in those parts. Sir, I am even now going out of towne. If I had libertie to have seene you, I should have sayd somthing more. Sir, I rest

July 13, 1655.

Your affectionate freinde and servant,

OL. ST. JOHN.

Mr. O. B. to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 414.

HAvinge considered of what you proposed to me, concerning the matter of trade, I shall render you the results of my thoughts, forbearing to mention the reasons, which were too tedious to insert. Therefore I have drawne up and doe send you hear inclosed a paper, wheareby you may see, what I doe conceive your best waye, to sett on worke some able persons to offerr theire thoughts unto you, which they may conveniently doe in three monthes after they are heare mett. But fearinge I am too longe and troublesome, I shall refer the enlardgement to some other opportunity. I cannot omit to acquainte you, that your fleet (wherin coll. Homphris is) went from Waymothe saterday the 7th of this month.

3

I pray

JOHN THURLOE ESQ. &c.

641

I pray dispatch my buſſines, that I may have a littell tyme in the country, for I finde my ſelfe not well. I ſhall add, that I remaine

A. D. 1655.

Your affectionate and homble ſervant,

Westminſter, July 13, 1655.

O. B.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to ſecretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

DOctor Bayly is com hither from Rom, purpoſly for credit in my hands, which he ſaith you promiſt to ſend him. He has been very free with me in informing me of thoſe great commands, which you have layd upon him at Rom. To acquaint you fully therewith, he has taken ſome paynes this day to give you a large account in writing, which he would have ſent you for England by a man expreſſe, which I ſhould have bin very forward to do, had I had but the leſt intimation from yourſelf, that this gentleman were employed by you. However I now ſend away a man to Genoa, with theſe letters, to overtake the French ordinary ther: ſo I hope they will come as ſafe to your hands, as if they went by a man a purpoſe. I ſhall likewiſe furniſh this gentleman with 20 or 30 l. upon that ſcore, that by his own relation, only he belongs to you; and if he proves not the man he pretends to be, I muſt have patience. However pray be pleaſed to give me anſwer to this buſineſs, that I may know how to carry myſelf hereafter therein; for to improve my weak endeavours to the full in your ſervice is the earneſt deſire of,

Vol. xxviii.

P. 446.

Right honorable,

Leghorn, July 24, 1655. [N. S.]

Your moſt faithful ſervant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

Nicholas Heinfius, the Dutch reſident in Sweden, to the ſtates general.

Stockholm, July 14, 1655.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

MY lords, upon the 9th of this month in the morning the king ſet ſail out of the Dalers: the fleet divided into ſquadrons; and in regard that the wind hath blown very fair ever ſince, here is no doubt made, but that the king is ſafely landed ere now. It is thought he will either land at Wolgas or Stetin in Pomerania.

Vol. xxviii.

P. 440.

Some few days ſince great damage hath happened to the copper mines of this kingdom, which will be no ſmall loſs both to the king, and particular men. It ſeems that the works are fallen down, the damage is not well to be known.

Yeſterday I received your high and mighty lordſhips reſolution to go for Germany, which I ſhall obſerve with as much ſpeed as may be.

Preſident Viole to Barriere.

Bruffels, July 14, 1655.

I AM glad that 48 doth not meet with theſe difficulties, which you write of; but I fear that 47 doth not meet with no leſs. 45 doth remain firm to 96, no body doth ſpeak any thing more to him.

Vol. xxviii.

P. 442.

Since the taking of Landrecy, the French army hath ſpent ſome time to victual the place and to fill the lines. It is ſaid that the king hath been there. On wedneſday laſt the enemy laid ſiege to the Capelle, and it is ſaid that the Mareſchal of la Ferte is to manage that ſiege, and the mareſchal Turenne hath another deſign, which I do not believe, for the one or the other would run the hazard of being beaten.

H. Willemsen, Rosenwinge, and Petrus Charifus, to the states general.

Read, July 24, 1655. [N. S.]

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
P. 420.

UPON the special command of his majesty our most gracious king and sovereign, we the underwritten on the $\frac{11}{12}$ of April last past, in a publick audience made a report to your high mightinesses by word of mouth, and afterwards delivered also in writing a certain proposition with sundry circumstances, relating to that known seizure and detention of the English ships at Copenhagen, coming from the Baltick, granted in the year 1652, at the repeated request of the respective deputies and resident of your high mightinesses, Nanning Keyser, and Frederick de Vries, out of which said ships and their cargo thus seized, and out of the produce thereof, according to the proposition and approbation of the said mr. Keyser himself, was made payment and brought over to account for the loss and damage suffered by the subjects of his royal majesty of Denmark and Norway, &c. by the reprisals of the English, during the war between the two republicks. We were in confident hopes, that your high mightinesses would have granted us a favourable answer in writing, upon our said proposition, for a final liquidation of the said pretensions, and in order to prevent all misunderstanding, and what further may result therefrom, to the disturbance of the mutual good understanding and neighbourly friendship and correspondence between his said majesty our most gracious sovereign and this state: nevertheless we observe not without surprise and sorrow the contrary, and seeing that in the last conference with their high mightinesses deputies, the lords Beverning, the counsellor pensionary de Witt and Vierffen, were delivered to us certain copies and extracts out of sundry documents and former acts, consisting in a number of fifteen pieces, whereby their lordships intended to demonstrate, that his said majesty could not form by law nor under any colour of reason, any pretension on the said English ships and goods, nor on the produce thereof, nor on what is out of the same delivered to his majesty's subjects, in payment, but on the contrary, that his majesty was obliged to make a full and punctual restitution of the same, without making the least reflection how and from whom his majesty was to take his satisfaction, for the losses his subjects have suffered, and other things which the said lords deputies endeavoured to prove by the said documents. But every thing being well examined and considered by impartial arbitrators, such an uncharitable construction can never be enforced from thence, which is but now only started, after the conclusion of the peace with England, contrary to all foregoing promises, protestations, and at several times reiterated, and even by their high mightinesses themselves ratified acts of guaranty and indemnity, endeavouring at present to lessen and extenuate such an act of friendship and considerable service, shewed and done by his said majesty, by such a resolute step, even to the hazard of his own kingdoms, and with the utmost ruin and destruction of innumerable subjects and their commerce.

However in order to demonstrate, though there be no need for it, by particular refutations, that the said respective *retroacta* and documents are intirely irrelevant, the same, as they are especially and orderly distinguished, to the number of 15 articles, shall be answered, and the insufficiency thereof plainly proved, be it that they are considered either separately or jointly.

Number 1, 2, and 3.

The contents therefore of number 1, 2, and 3, may be intirely applied in favour and behalf of his royal majesty, since thereby their high mightinesses do expressly confirm, and by a special resolution approve and ratify the promises and protestations of the said mr. Nanning de Keyser, that their high mightinesses, with all their power and forces, shall and will assist his said majesty, and avert all that any ways may happen to his said majesty of Denmark, for and on account of what he shall do in the premises. And that their high mightinesses at all occurrences will endeavour to shew themselves grateful to his said majesty for that service.

Wherein respectively are repeated, and ought to be minded, the words, *all that any ways*, which naturally and properly contain a general sense, nothing in the world excepted, but comprehending all emergencies, without distinction, especially such cases, which after the said seizure which was desired, must unavoidably follow, and which already happened, and were effectually existent, by the detention of the Danish ships.

So that the seriousness and earnestness of their high mightinesses request being expressly declared and manifested by their guaranty and indemnification, the pretended allegation, that in behalf of his majesty nothing could be produced in writing, for the justification of his demands and desire of liquidation, doth intirely fall of itself.

It being likewise far from all appearance or likelihood, that his royal majesty, without A. D. 1655. assurance of guaranty, would or could have acted thus only and merely in consideration of their high mightinesses, since the appearance of the ruin of many merchants and subjects of his majesty could inevitably be foreseen.

Besides this, the said intervening promise of indemnity, as being grounded upon reason, justice, and equity, even without any previous express stipulation, ought to have been made good by their high mightinesses since it cannot be presumed, that any body to his own great prejudice and loss, would promote the advantage and profit of another, especially because natural equity itself dictates to the contrary, that no body ought to be a loser by his kindness and good actions, but that the loss must be borne by him, to whom the advantage doth devolve, since loss and profit are relatively reciprocal.

Number 4.

So that it can no ways be sustained, that the offence given to the republick of England, and the law of retorsion or reprisals was an unforeseen accident, because the same in the treaty of guaranty I produced under numb. 4. was not mentioned, nor any sufficient obligation entered into; on the contrary, it is evident, that the affirmative promise of indemnity was the only fundamental cause of the guaranty, and therefore it is presupposed, that a preceding assurance of indemnity, with all circumstances and accidental incidents, is tacitly comprehended in the said treaty, at least the efficacy of such reiterated and formal promises cannot be made illusive or frustrated by any following confederation, extended *generaliter & per modum relationis*, for otherwise the said promise of guaranty would be intirely fruitless and without force, which would involve a notorious absurdity. And the reason why the said point of indemnity is not repeated, or expressly inserted, in the said treaty, was, because the said mr. de Keyser, for want of further instructions, was pleased to draw up the said act in such, and no other form, and because his majesty (confiding in the usual sincerity, uprightness and gratitude of their high mightinesses, and being assured of their praiseworthy punctuality in making good their promises) did, *precipitanter & bona fide*, because the said de Keyser urged this affair so very pressingly, proceed to the conclusion of the said treaty. And by a plain consequence the pretended allegation of their high mightinesses can no ways stand good; that they by virtue thereof are not obliged to indemnify the subjects of his majesty, and to make any satisfaction for the intolerable and excessive losses, which they have suffered and sustained, only for the interest of their high mightinesses; but that their high mightinesses were only obliged thereby to help with all their power to avert any hostilities, which on that account might have been undertaken, against his majesty and his subjects. For besides that such a construction and interpretation is contradictory to the true meaning of the contractants, and the good faith required among allies, it is likewise repugnant against the very sense of the words thereof, being extended *quam generalissimè & universaliter*, and does not except any case whatsoever, nor admits of any limitation or restriction. Moreover the indemnity which is claimed, is not only and solely grounded on the said treaty of guaranty, but also particularly, on the said repeated and ratified promises of their high mightinesses, seeing that, without an effectual indemnity, the preceding protestations and assurances of guaranty, made in favour of his majesty's subjects, would be needless. For the averting of hostilities, claims and pretensions, is really but one point, properly relating to the state of Denmark, and a consequence and obligation, reciprocally resulting from the said treaty, since it cannot in any ways be applied to the particular interest of the suffering subjects, without the same are indemnified thereby.

Number 5.

From the memorial delivered by the said mr. de Keyser in the year 1653, exhibited under number 5, nothing can be inferred to the prejudice of the said just pretensions, because the said mr. de Keyser could draw up the said memorial according to his own will and likeing, and the same being a private and particular draught, can in no manner be interpreted *in præjudicium tertii*, yet the recommendation of communication and inclusion, as also the request (to avert all pretensions of losses and interest on account of the detained English hemp ships) which are respectively mentioned therein, doth not contradict, much less suppresses it the right of indemnification, which by the foregoing respective acts and promises was settled and consented to, so that it was needless to insist farther upon it. Therefore the offer of his majesty, relating to the restitution of the said English hemp ships and effects, or otherwise the produce thereof, which is likewise mentioned therein, must be understood to be made with that view and proviso, to receive the like satisfaction for such ships and effects detained by reprisal, and this *ex identitate rationis*. Moreover the intention of their high mightinesses, in conformity thereunto, will plainly appear by the letter of the said mr. de Keyser to their high mightinesses, bearing

A. D. 1655. bearing date, Copenhagen, January 13, 1653. for therein is mentioned expressly: *That now his majesty and his subjects had got that security where they could lay a claim to, of which else, by the relaxation of these hemp ships, they should be destitute.* So that it would be intirely unequitable, that his majesty, without a preceding liquidation, and a like satisfaction, should make restitution of such money, which according to the evident intention and cession of their high mightinesses, made by the said mr. de Keyser (whose act their high mightinesses are obliged to stand to; and to whom, as to the extension and force of the said promises of indemnity, full credit ought to be given) is already distributed among his majesty's suffering subjects.

Number 6.

Which is likewise evidently to be seen out of the letter of the said mr. de Keyser, written to your high mightinesses on the 13th of August, exhibited *sub num. 6.* for in that said letter is repeated the request of his royal majesty, to be secured against the English pretensions, besides what the said mr. de Keyser informs your high mightinesses thereby, that his majesty also insisted to be freed from all further pretensions, (note the words *further pretensions*;) and whereas the said words comprehend some separate and special matters, so that besides the beforementioned pretensions, something else must needs be understood, (for else the same would have been superfluous and of no signification;) the said words can be only applied to this subject, viz. upon the pretensions what the English should happen to form, in order to refuse to make restitution of and satisfaction for the Danish ships, which by reprisal might be confiscated, against which his majesty and the subjects of his kingdoms must be effectually guarantied by their high mightinesses, pursuant to their reiterated and ratified promises of indemnity. And according thereunto, the said mr. de Keyser recommends in his said letter, that the said just and reasonable request may be agreed to, to the satisfaction of his majesty, and in compliance with the former treaties and acts that are passed.

Number 7.

The resolution of your high mightinesses of the 7th of September 1653. delivered *sub num. 7.* deserves not only no answer, but on the contrary may very well be accepted in favour of his majesty, since thereby the respective requests of his majesty, mentioned in the above said letter of the said mr. de Keyser, inserted in the said resolution, are agreed to without any limitation or protestation.

Number 8 and 9.

From the memorial of the resident mr. Charisius presented to your high mightinesses on the 25th of October 1653, as also from the resolution of your high mightinesses, which passed the same day, relating to the same, which respectively are exhibited *sub num. 8 and 9,* not the least argument can be inferred against the said just petition and request of liquidation, so that thereon no particular debates are required.

Number 10.

The resolution of your high mightinesses of the 7th of November 1653, produced *sub num. 10.* comprehends among other things some further assurances in conformity of the former promises of indemnity, viz. *That their high mightinesses at all times, and with all their strength and power, will help to avert all whatsoever should happen to his said majesty, or his kingdom, dominions, and people, in relation to the said seizure or sale, or any other pretensions;* (note the words, other pretensions) *that might be formed on that account.* And whereas the English for that reason have made a pretension upon the Danish ships, for which they will neither give nor make the least satisfaction, their high mightinesses are especially obliged, even according to the said resolution, to guaranty his majesty and his kingdoms, and subjects, against the same, and to indemnify them. However, what concerns the offer and assurance of his majesty in relation to the restitution of the hemp ships, which is likewise mentioned therein, that same must be taken and understood under such a proviso and restriction, as above in the debates on num. 5. is set forth, to which for brevity's sake we refer.

Number 11.

The letter of his royal majesty written to their high mightinesses on the 11th of November 1653, and exhibited *sub num. 11.* we pass by, as requiring no solution.

Number 12.

And thus proceeding to the report of the notification made by the lords Beverninge, A. D. 1655. van Nieupoort, and Jongestel, to the said resident Charisius, delivered January 26, 1654, and exhibited *sub num.* 12. we reply, that we cannot imagine, what from the same can be inferred, to the prejudice of the reiterated promises of guaranty.

Number 13.

By the proposition made by mr. Rosenvinge to their high mightinesses on the 27th of February 1654, produced *sub num.* 13. it was recommended, upon just grounds, that the lords ambassadors of their high mightinesses then in England might be charged to procure, that a reasonable restitution and satisfaction might be obtained concerning the ships and goods of the Danish subjects, taken from them by the English, for the abovesaid reason. But from thence it doth not follow any ways, that their high mightinesses were thereby freed from their obligation, *ad prestationem indemnitis*, wherewith their high mightinesses, according to their respective promises and assurances, are and remain still privative, and especially charged, and could have been solely called upon as being accountable. But the reason why at that time their high mightinesses were not directly required to make good their obligation was, because the Danish ships were detained by the English, and consequently could not be effectually restored by their high mightinesses. But whereas their high mightinesses, be it out of some particular view, or any other considerations and interest of state, did not insist on the said point of satisfaction, and omitted to have the same inserted, together with the inclusion, (in conformity to the said request of his majesty) in the treaty with England, therefore the same obligation is still owing by their high mightinesses, who *proprio facto* have obliged themselves to the necessity, according to their repeated promises, to indemnify the subjects of his majesty for all the losses they have sustained.

Number 14.

And afterwards by a special resolution, bearing date March 2, 1654. (quoted num. 14.) their high mightinesses have renewed their reiterated protestations and assurances of indemnity, and declared in case of necessity, that they would effectually perform and punctually make good their said promises, which is an evident sign, that their high mightinesses never have called into question or disputed the said promise of indemnity by any contrary disapprobation or protestation against the same; but on the contrary have always acknowledged the same by divers acts of approbation, and with a solemn declaration, that their high mightinesses at all times with due gratitude will remember the friendship, which his said majesty had done them at that opportunity, and in such dangerous conjunctures of time, out of a sincere affection; and that they in all occurrences that might happen would readily acknowledge the same with the like reciprocal services, so that the said resolution doth not at all contradict, but rather justifies the said required indemnity.

Number 15.

And lastly, examining the serious letter of their high mightinesses to his majesty, written on the 23d of September 1654, produced *sub num.* 15. and made also use of to destroy thereby the respective acts of guaranty that are passed, we only say, that from such letters (which may be extended *pro libitu*, and according to the intention of the writer) nothing can be inferred to the prejudice of him, to whom the same may be directed, since the same, being particular and wilful extensions, cannot demerit any credit in favour of the writer, to the effect of a sufficient obligation. Besides the *centrum* thereof, concerning the general terms of the promise of indemnity and guaranty, and the presentation of restitution made by his majesty so as therein mentioned, doth sufficiently fall away by what is mentioned here before. At least the pretended contradictions, which from thence are fancied to result, are sufficiently and absolutely refuted and interpreted by salutary distinctions, and under such modifications and conditions as above set forth.

We therefore do not doubt, but whereas their high mightinesses are now fundamentally informed, by all the abovementioned and alledged reasons, of the true state and situation of this affair, and of all that depends on it, they will grant us a favourable resolution, (whereof your usual sincerity assures us) in full satisfaction of our pretensions, which are grounded upon equity and justice, and in punctual compliance with their high mightinesses reiterated promises given and made as well by resolutions and acts of guaranty, as also by letters and reports of their high mightinesses deputies extraordinary, made and dated January 13, 1653. humbly requesting to take all these motives and considerations

A. D. 1655. into due deliberation, to the end that we may speedily obtain such a favourable resolution during the present illustrious session of their noble and great mightinesses the lords the states of Holland and West Friesland; remaining in the mean while your high mightinesses most humble, &c.

(Was Sign'd)

Hague, July 22, 1655. [N. S.]

H. WILLEMSSEN ROSENVINGE.
PETRUS CHARISIUS.

Mr. Francis Barrington to general Disbrowe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxviii.
P. 450.

IT is the grief of my soul (and all honest men amongst us) that so glorious a designe should be blasted by our owne miscarriages. Indeed wee have been instruments of much misery to ourselves, besides the loss of many gallant men in Hispaniola, amongst whom was major generall Heanes of renowned memory, whose death is still much lamented, and will every day more and more, as our difficulties come uppon us, for he was a man that acted upon a cleer account to serve his God, prince, and countrey, laying aside all other interest that might obstruct these his good intentions. But the actions of our generall have not so cleerly demonstrated themselves unto us. Sir, here is much discontent betwixt our generall and collonel Buller, collonel Carter, and collonel Doyly (by them justly taken) occasioned by his irregular acting, they have not so much power here as his highness allowed the captaines (under his conduct) both in England, Scotland, and Ireland, neither hath he summoned them twice (since our arrivall here) to consult about the safe disposall of this your poore army for the future; nay, that which is worst of all, he acteth as his will leadeth him, notwithstanding the vote of the councill. In one particular I can sadly instance this truth. At our invading this island the generall called a councill of warr for the further disposall of his army that night; it was resolved, that wee should immediately march to the enemies chief towne (being but five miles from our landing) in order to which the army advanced very cheerfully, but before the reare mooved, command went to the van to stand untill further order, without giving any further reason (for this sudden alteration) then, what will you dispute command? Which answer was given by our now major generall. Wee marched not untill the next morning about eight of the clock, at which time the generall came up to us, he having returned aboard, and lay there all night from his army, which was not the custome of his highness to use his armies so. The lying still of the army the first night (contrary to the councill's resolve) hath wonderfully prejudiced his highness designe, for by itt the enemy had libertie to quitt thier towne with bagg and baggage; accordingly they did so, for wee coming to itt found neither man, woman, nor child in itt, but the enemy did send unto us some horssmen that evening to know our desires, and whether or knowe wee would treat with them; they had libertie to send commissioners, in which time of the treaty some of the gentlemen abovenamed (if not all) much desyred of the generall, that a party might be sent out to keepe the enemy from conveying themselves and goods away, (they then lying within three miles of us) in case they should breake off; this would not bee assented unto. The enemies commissioners were little less then compelled by our generall to signe conditions, but their party having carryed away their estates (and too much drove the country) would not make good what their commissioners signed, which they must in all probabilitie have done, if wee had either marched the first, (it being ordered by the councill) or, according to the collonels desyres, sent out a party to stop the enemies motion from us: the doing of neither hath occasioned the loss of much blood; never was a poore army so conducted. My lord protector hath done well for us, and our provision came very seasonably to us, but strangely disposed off; for I have not had (from the store) fix pound of bread for myself and familie since my arrivall here, neither doth the collonel know what is in the store, being not privy to any thing: thus sadly hath the general acted, but blessed be God he is now going from us. I am confident our good God will stirr up the heart of his highness, to make a strickt enquiry into the so much blood spilt both in Hispaniola and here. The Lord direct his soule in so weighty a matter. Sir, wee are in a good island for effecting his highness designe, and am assured wee may yet flourish (God giving a blessing) if in time we have one sent to head us (with some other provisions) which I hope will bee a man fearing God, and hating covetousness, which hath hitherto been our ruine. To have written to your honour every particular would have taken up many sheets; but my collonel and commissioner Butler (both honest men) going for England, will give you the full and particular relation of all our transactions since our being in America,

America, the which will appeare very sad. My collonel is ordered by the councill of the army to wayt on his highness on our behalfe; he is a gentleman of experienced fidelitie to us, and hath stood up faythfully for the advancement of the present expedition, but whatsoever he or the other two collonels sayd or defyred, yet the general would doe what he pleased. Although he would not call them to councill, yet they severall times defyred and pressed earnestly to have some thinges done, which undeniable were for the advantage of the army: he would not act therein, but by some meanes or other evade them, sometimes saying, such wayes were better, not at all adheering to their advice, but tooke our collonel Holldepp (to bee of his cabinet counsell) who hath been a very ill member to this army. I now begg pardon for this my boldness: I thought it my duty to give your honour this brief hint of passages here (his highness honour being much concerned herein, and chiefly the cause of God) fearing that the larger account might miscarry, which is signed by some gentlemen, that I am confident are and will prove faythfull and loyall subjects to his highness, and I hope are willing to sacrifice their lives in the present cause, although general Venables is strangely leaveing us without the consent of the forementioned collonels. One thing remarkable I had almost forgott; the generall and councill ordered that noe commissioned officer should depart the island without leave from the collonels; but since that he hath given passes to many, and I heare will carry more with him, notwithstanding the collonels protest agaynst itt. They may be prosecuted as runnawayes, he havinge not power to send or carry any off. Ceasing your trouble at present, I humbly subscribe myself

Your honour's most humble servant in all services,

Jamaica, July 14, 1655.

FRANCIS BARRINGTON.

I beseech your honour present my humble service to my lady and my little cousens, with my loyall duty to his highness, for whose welfare my soule is earnest to the throne of grace: the God of heaven direct him and his councill: long may you live to be instruments of much glorie to his name; it is the prayer of

Your honour's devoted servant,

FRANCIS BARRINGTON.

The superscription,

*For the right honorable major general Disbrowe at
Suffolk house, or elsewhere, London.*

*The examination of William Pinckney, taken by me Edward Whalley, esq; July
14, 1655.*

THIS examine faith, that on the 11th day of this instant July, one Henry Seyley, Vol. xxviii; a bookseller, living over-against Dunstan's church in Fleet Street, came to his shop, p. 418. being next to the Three Daggers in Fleet Street, and told him, he had a piece or two of plate in the form of a trumpet to sell him, which was left him as a legacy by a gentleman in the country; the day or two following the said Seyley sent two new silver trumpets in a box nailed up to this examine; which box he broke up, and whilst he was weighing the trumpets the said Seyley came to his shop and sold them to this examine for 5 s. an ounce.

This examine further faith, that both the said Seyley and himself being brought before commissary general Whalley, as they were coming from the Meuse to him, the said Seyley, supposing that this examine would be releas'd, desired him to go to one Doffet in Fetter Lane, and tell him, that he was in trouble, or something to that purpose, and withal to desire him to affirm, that the box with the two trumpets was left at his house for him by Rowland Thomas, late a prisoner in the Tower, and that they had been left with him the space of three months.

WILLIAM PINCKNEY.

Examinations and informations.

William Roughton the elder, of Wilcott, in the county of Wilts, confesseth, that Vol. xxviii. twice or thrice he was in company with major Clarke, mr. Bowles, and others of p. 284. the late risers, this last winter at hunting near Everlie, and dined with them at the said Everlie,

A. D. 1655. Eyerlie, after their sport ended. He saith further, he had a son engaged in the rebellion; as also that he sold the lord Sandys at Luggershal the day the rising was at Sarum four horses of a good price, and went thither the same day on purpose to hunt with the said lord Sandes. He denieth that he met on purpose with the said Clark, Bowles, &c. to hunt, but accidentally as he was airing his horse upon the Downs.

This acknowledgment was made by the above-mentioned mr. Roughton unto me upon the 14th of July 1655. and upon enquiry after him, I find him to be a reputed cavalier, and to have been formerly questioned by major Boteler.

EDWARD HOTTON.

John Strong of Dunhead in the county of Wilts informeth, that captain Robert Grove of the same parish, and formerly of the cavalier party, was absent from his house about five or six days, at the time of the rising of Salisbury, and was at the house of one mr. Molines near Sherburn, a reputed cavalier, on the Sunday before the said rising; upon which day he sent his servant home to his house at Dunhead for a suit of clothes, which, as the servant alledged, his master was to wear at Dorchester assizes four days after. He further informeth, that there went one out of the said mr. Molines house, that joined with the rebels, whilst the said captain Grove was there. And further he saith not.

Mr. Keate of the same parish of Dunhead informeth, that in the dusk of the evening, four or five days after the rising at Sarum, he observed with his daughter two persons on horseback to ride in hastily into the said captain Grove's yard, and he enquiring after their going away the same night, or the next day, but could not learn that they did either.

Amy Gaine of Dunhead St. Mary, in the county of Wilts, informeth, that about a fortnight or three weeks before the rising at Sarum, her son-in-law, doctor Dunne, that then sojourned in her house, invited certain persons to her house to a feast, whose names are as followeth, captain Grove and James Bennett, both formerly in the king's army, mr. Cross, mr. Green, mr. Goddard, Richard Freaker, Robert Mullins, William Meggs, and that there were present two brothers of the said doctor's, and others whose names she had forgot. And being asked what was the reason of the said meeting, she replied, it was to make merry at her son-in-law's farewell, who was then to go to live in the Isle of Wight. And further she saith not.

Martha Lush of Dunhead abovesaid informeth, that the said doctor Dunne, about two or three days after the said feast, and about a fortnight before the rising at Sarum, came to her house, and beginning discourse with her about her husband, said, that the roundheads religion was the worst of all religions; and that you and I shall see the time, when Inch and Legge (meaning two ministers) shall be turned out of their parsonages; for that the said Inch preached a sermon of thanksgiving after Worcester fight for the victory obtained there: he said further, that the time may come, that I may be a friend to him for it; and that the parliament men did deserve to have their heads some of them cut off. She further informeth, that the said doctor Dunne at the same time was very much offended with her, for that her husband, that had been formerly a cavalier, was now led away by the said Inch his preaching. And further she saith not.

The said doctor Dunne, his brothers, and the rest of this meeting are by all the honest people thereabouts all accounted cavaliers, the said Grove and Bennett having formerly been in the king's army, and the said Dunne was imprisoned so soon as he came in the Isle of Wight for suspicious words he spoke then, with some others that went over thither with him, but were since released upon bail.

Mr. Swanton of Sarum informeth, that the high sheriff of Wilts saw mr. Willoughby amongst the rebels near Blandford (he being then a prisoner amongst them) the same day the rising was at Sarum; and the said mr. Willoughby doth not deny his being there, but saith, it was to fetch off his wife's brother, one mr. Green junior of Meare in the said county, that was gone along with the said rebels.

Mr. Kitson of Bishopston in the county of Wilts, and one engaged in the rising at Sarum, informeth, that as he was marching along with the said risers near Evill, on the west side of the said town, as he remembers, or he is confident upon the road between Blandford and the said Evill, he observed a gentleman riding very fast up from the rear unto the front of the said party of risers; and thereupon asking, who it was that rode up
to

so hard, one that rode next this informant, replied, that it was one mr. Willoughby, who, as this informant observed, was well mounted, and had a sword by his side, but what other arms this informant knoweth not. This informant also observed another man riding up the same a little after the said mr. Willoughby, but doth not know who it was, nor did he enquire after him. A. D. 1655.

This is the Willoughby of Westknowell, that had the rendezvous of the fox hunters at his house for a week together, but a very few days before the rising at Sarum as abovesaid.

The information of John Smith, of Luggershal, in the county of Wilts, carpenter.

Saith, that there was a fox hunting at the said town this week before the rising at Sarum, which continued for four or five days, where were present the lord Sands of Hampshire, sir Henry More of Berkshire, old mr. Garrett, Charles Garrett, and Thomas Garrett his sons, living at Lamberton in Berkshire; mr. George Browne, and old mr. Fisher, mr. Deane, esquire Hill, and one mr. Newman. He saith further, that mr. John Mompeyson came on foot the morning that the rising was to go a hunting with them. He further saith, that the said lord Sands had eight horses at the said fox hunting, and that he and some of the said party staid to hunt till monday, the day the rising was, and the same day broke up their sport, and rode away, and others of the said party went away the thursday before. Vol. xxviii. P. 292.

Mr. Mompeyson informeth, that the lord Sands bought three or four of the said horses of one mr. Roughton, at or about the same time; and that one of the said horses was fit for the great saddle, and not for hunting, being of a very great value.

Sir Thomas Moore and mr. Deane, that were of the number of the said fox hunting, were in the rising at Salisbury.

Col. Fortescue to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

I Understand by my wife, that she received civill respects from you, when she had occasion to make her applications to you about my old business, for which I humbly thank you, begging the continuance of your favour towards me therein, without which through unreasonable and vexatious persecuting, my family is like to suffer very much, which is no small affliction to me. You may please to remember, it was the thing I promised to his highnes, when he was pleased to send for me, that if an end might be put to the suit, which they faithfully stated, as appeares by the trustees certificate in your hands to his highnes, I would readily serve his highnes in this expedition, otherwise I could not without manifest ruin to my family, being followed by a malicious adversary: his highnes was pleased to undertake it should be done; in confidence whereof I engaged, and am here at this day through divine providence. I did no evill to incurr so much trouble, only desire to be indemnified in pursuance, and by virtue of an act of parliament. The trustees sell me land and woods distinctly receiveing my money. I cut down part of these woods to reimburse myself, am impleaded on the statute of Gloucester, condemn'd unheard, trible damages, adjudged to lose the lands supposed to be . . . and am without remedy. Please you at leasure to peruse the trustees certificate, and you'll finde I am very hardly dealt with. Appeare and pleade for (as the case now stands) the stranger, widow, and fatherless, who otherwise under God have no helper. It will be a greate encouragement to me to goe on chearfully in the publique employment, if I might heare care were taken for my family, otherwise it will be, as now it is, a great discouragement. I did likewise informe yow of some detts, which I had contracted, which I could not satisfie, unles his highnes would please to order satisfaction of my arreares, which are stated and bonded to be paid mee in money, which his highnes told mee he would cause to be done in some short time, though he could not doe it at the present, by reason the treasury was lowe, and soe ordered me only 200l. with which I satisfied part of my detts; he left above 1000l. unpaid, which did very much trouble mee, fearinge least (as it falls out) it should prove fraudulent to mee. That in confidence his highnes would please to order payment of the rest in some short tyme, I for present silenced my creditors, and came away in obedience to his highnes commands. But that which I feared is now befallen

A. D. 1655. befallen mee, reproch and shame, for borrowinge and not payeing; a thinge, which wounds mee, as in reputation, soe in conscience, and without your favourable and effectuall assistance I must, as things stand, groane under this burthen. I have taken the boldnes to spread my grievances before yow, and implore your freindship therein. Please to take it into your serious consideration, and procure relief. The bond for my arreares I have left in mr. Hodges hands, with direction to waite on yow. Sir, I shall forbear to give yow account of proceedings, in regard so many will waite on yow, who will informe yow . . . of particulars. General Pen went hence with 2 parts of 3 of the flecte, and 4 daies since our general Venables is likewise imbarqued, and commissioner Butler will accompany him. Truth is, I know not of what use he is, unles to make up a number: if I may without offence speake it, he is the unfittest man for a commissioner I ever knew ymployed. I suppose his highnes and councill had little knowledge of him. Please to pardon mee, that I thus speake it: my zeale to the service is a trouble to me to see my lord's busines ill managed. I wish with all my heart God may finde out and fit instruments to all intents and purposes for the worke. General Pen knew of general Venables resolution to goe. General Venables acquainted captain Butler with his inabillity and unfitnes, by reason of sicknes, to act; and desired his concurrence to appoint me to carie on the worke, and manage affaires. The commissioner went that night to general Pen, as he alleadged, to communicate the same to him, returned againe 3 daies after, but will not declare general Pen's or his owne resolution in that matter. General and commissioner are all gone, and I am left to act without booke; but God assisting mee, I shall doe my utmost for his glory and the service of his highnes; but desier his highnes pleasure may be signified as soone as possible, to,

Sir, your most humble servant,

Jamico, July 16, 1655.

RICHARD FORTESCUE.

My most humble service I desire may be presented to his highnes.

Col. Fortescue to mr. Taylor.

DEARE SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
P. 445.

THAT you may see I am not altogether unmindfull of my promise, I have heer sent you a breif narretive of our proceedings since we came from England. The 26th of December we sett saile from Portsmouth; the 29th of January arived at Barbadoes, where we stayed two months in expectation of our store ships. They not coming, and we having compleated our regiment, and desirous to be in action, made the best provisions we could, and the 30th of March imbarqued ourselves, the 13th of April we arrived at Hispaniola, but our pilot and conductor, viz. one Cox, being sent away two daies before, I know not on what errand, by general Pen, came not up to us time enough to direct us in landinge at the river Hine, soe as we were enforced to saile above 12 leagues to the leward of St. Domingo, where we landed, marching an unknowne countrey without any guide, many faintinge with the extreame heate of the sun and want of water. By this meanes we alarum'd all the countrey, who ymediately forsook their houses, and fled into the cittie, the onely place of strength. All the wells they dam'd up within 8 miles of the cittie. We wanted necessaries to carrie forth water, by which meanes (we marchinge up twice towards the towne) were disabled to prosecute the busines with effect. The countrey beinge wooddy, and waies narrow, some advantages were taken by ambascades, and severall persons cut of; but we soone beate them out of their fastnesses, but could not advance by reason of the weakenes and faintnes of the souldiers, who fell downe dead for want of water. When we first landed, our army was healthy and stronge, but exceedingly weakened through sicknes in the island. Findinge drought too powerful an enemy to encounter with, a resolution was taken to embarque for this island Jamico, which was a more feaseble place to undertak, and farre more advantagious in order to our designe on the Indies than Hispaniola. Here we arrived, marched up to the towne fower miles from the sea side, the enemy fled, we posselt ourselves of it, lost not a man their, and our commissioners afterwards treated the articles confirmed by their governours and commissioners, who were and are hostages; but the countrey would not conforme, but fled into and secured themselves in the mountains, where they make a hard shift to live, till the great raines, which are accordinge to the season expected, force them to buckle. We are sendinge out small parties continuallie. Last weeke we tooke 24 of them, and 50 others came in voluntarily. It's a very fruitfull and pleasant land, a fitt receptacle for honnest men, which is our greatest want here. Who knowes, whether God hath not sent us before, to make way for the gospell. I hope God will incline and dispose the

heart of such as feared God, to come and fitt downe amongst us. We have encountred A. D. 1655
 and waded through many hardships and difficulties; but all's nothinge, soe as we may
 be instrumentall to propagate the gospell. Were it not in this confidence, I should have
 sunk in the worke, as others have done, but this consideration beares me up. Doubtles
 God is doeing a greate and strange worke. Who would not be forward to have a hand
 in it? Meethinks I can doe and suffer on that account, that I may see the promises and
 prophecies fulfilled, and which is more to be instrumentall therein, tho' an honour, of
 which I am not worthy; yet such honour shall his people have. Consider and revolve
 God's word and the present worke; and let none stande still that be helpfull and service-
 able in God's worke. Had I 5000 lives, 1000 sons, all should be offered up to it. I
 bles his name, that hath made me soe willinge amongst many unwillinge, who though
 they . . . wish and expresse their desires to be in Egypt again. I trust God will spirit
 men for this worke, and give them other hearts: men of ordinary spirit are not fitt for ex-
 traordinary atcheivements. What a desirable and joyfull thinge would it be, to see many
 godly men flock and flow in hither, there is accomodation worke for them? Here they
 may serve God, their countrey, and themselves. I dare say, he that comes on such ac-
 counts, shall not have cause to repent his voyage: many there are that came out with us
 vauntinge, as if they would have carryed the Indies, bigg with expectation of gold and
 silver ready told up in baggs, not findinge that, but meetinge with some difficulties and
 hardships, wherewith God uses to try and exercise his people, they fret, fume, and grow
 impatient, and wish that they were at their onyons, &c. Severall of such, accordinge to
 their desires and discontents, we have dismist, and may returne with shame enough. We
 expect in their owne defence they will disparage the place and service; but I hope wise
 and sober men will not give much credit to them. General Pen with 2 parts in 3 of the
 fleete returned 14 daies since for England. Our general, who hath beene sicke 8 weeks,
 is now embarqued for England; so that the care of the army under God depends on
 me. I suppose the protector will not be well pleased to see them; but we shall have
 the best care we can in their absence. We heare of great preparations in Spaine, but
 feare them not, I know God (if England should) will not neglect and forget his interest here.
 Thinke not that I write to entice and inveagle men hither groundlessly. I speake my
 owne and judgment of wiser then I, that is the best land they and I set foote on. Here is
 only want of bread for the present and godly society. Had I that, I mean the last, which is
 the best, I could dispence with all other disaccommodations. Here is sufficient with
 God's blessinge to make men's conditions very comfortable. And if men are able to fur-
 nish themselves with servants, they may soone enrich themselves. I trust God will stir up
 the hearts of his people, to ponder and consider this operation of his hands, and enquier
 what the Lord meaneth by it, and follow him though into a wildernesse. Please to pre-
 sent my love and service to my sifter, and salute all the good acquaintance of

Your assured frind devoted to the service of God and his country,

Jamico, July 15, 1655.

RICH. FORTESCUE.

The superscription,

*For my worthy freind mr. Taylor, minister of
 the gospell, at his house in Bell Alley in
 Coleman Street.*

An intercepted letter of Charles Wheeler to his mother, mrs. Wheeler at Enfield.

Amsterdam, July 26, 1655. [N. S.]

MOST DEAR MOTHER,

I DID use my best endeavour, that it should be said, that I was gone into the north; Vol. xxviii.
 but if mine of the 26th miscarried to you, then this will be the first, that will bring p. 476.
 you the news that I am at Amsterdam, where I shall remain privately till I know what
 punishment it shall please God to bring upon all the imprisoned gentlemen in England.
 I gave you in that of the 24th some account of my business that I had finished with my
 lord Byron, by taking a statute from a gentleman of a good estate, for the payment of
 600 l. in February to my brothers and others where I am in debt. And I continue the
 assurance I gave you in that, that I will always acquaint you with my intentions.

An

An intercepted letter to mr. Stephens.

DEAR COUSIN,

A. D. 1655.
 Vol. xxviii.
 p. 480.

I Cannot but tell you a piece of good fortune, that is like to happen to me. I being resolved to go in the waggon, having no other way of going: my lord of Stafford is pleased to furnish me with horses, and mr. Medcalf's company to boot. My trunk is this day gone, and I have written to the master of the Ship at Dover, for to receive them, I hope to be so happy as to meet you on wednesday morning, and to put you to the trouble of providing a morning's draught for me. This inclosed is from Roome's, little Map's sister. Let your answer be as sudden as is possible.

July 26, 1655. [N. S.]

A paper of mr. Vermuyden to the protector.

Vol. xxviii.
 p. 468.

THAT the agreement made by the queene of Sweden with the lord protector of the commonwealth of England, &c. is null, shee haveinge resigned her crown unto her neffew, &c.

That the king of Sweden and the king of Poland are in union, and hold at this time correspondence, so as that their is a right understandinge betwixt them, and come on this side above 100 leagues.

That the king of Sweden is in union with the emperor, and have had no suspition of a quarrell since the receivinge of his crowne. And that the late queene of Sweden doth still hold frequent correspondency with the emperor.

That if the Swedish army had or doth intend any invasion into the united provinces of the Low Countries, they must have gone over the Rhyne farr higher then now they are come; for beinge so low in the country, betwixt the Rhyne and the sea, there is small possibility for them to harme the Low Countries; neither cann they enter on Friesland side, in regard of a moorash, that runs along the coast, and not passable but by a broad cassy, on the end of which are impregnable fortes, and allso the warres in the Low Countries being holly by feeges. The year is to farr spent. And allso considered the mutuall concurrances, which have binn betwixt Sweden and the Low Countries, it is not probably against them intended.

The kinge of France hath assisted the Swedes with vast sommes of mony, by which it is evident, that they are privy to this designe.

That theis and such like thinges being well weighed and debated with reason, it is the most probable against England. Also considered that courtly behaviour, which hath bin and is betwixt the queene of Sweden, and the eldest sonne of the late kinge.

That the strenght is great, and the consequence farr greater, and it is to be considered, that this vast army, which is the very bowells of Germany and Sweden, is conducted by none but protestant princes; and if they should land in England, it is to be considered, that they will be necessitated to fight, which will cause much resolution, and then difficult to be beaten; neither will they accept of a golden brige, if proferred; witness the battaile of Newport in the year 1600, or thereabouts. The old prince Mauricius used to say, that there was no greater weakninge to any power, then to sitt in selfe-securitye. It is wisdom in a comander, to foresee danger, and not to discover the least to his souldiers.

It is allso to be considered, if such an invasion should bee, where it is most probable they will land, and in what manner; that so their may be a secret preparation for resistance.

It is probabell, that they will land one part in Scotland, so to have footinge and help, the Scot being a people willinge to rise upon such an occasion. Allso it is probabell Hull to be the other place: 1. Because of the strenght of the place. 2. Because it is over-against Emden, a probable haven to embark themselves. 3. They may march up the river Trent, and by securing the passes cutt England into two peeces. And it is further to be considered, whether they will not land one Essex side, with the whole bulck of the army, and march up to London. There are many other thinges of much validity to be thought of, and how best to settle the people; but without debate they are not to be set downe. But as it is a maxime amongst princes to eye any army, being on foot, so it is true, that England ought to eye the Swedish.

And truly though a forreign army is odious to the English, and by consequence will be reddey to oppose them; yet when a Englishman comes in the head of them, under collar of his right, it will alter the condition before spoken.

My desire is, that your highnes may have sound intelligence and secret debates, which are the nerves of government. In what your highnes blames mee, pardon by reason of my presumptuous unskillfull age, the which in what I may, if your highnes thinkes fit, I shall be willing to amend by your directions; the which will be a happynes to me, but farr greater to see the government settled in the everlasting peace of content; and, as the Psalmist saith in the 108, verse 13. *Throw God wee shall do valiantly, for he it is that shall tread downe our enemies*; which is the prayer of

Your obedient subject,

JO. VERMUYDEN.

I am to goe out of towne one tuesday next; so that I had not above 1½ houres time for the writing of this. I humble crave pardon for the folly, no one knowing off it.

Dorchester-house, the 16th of July, 1655.

Bordeaux, the French *embassador* in England, to his father.

London, July 26, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

I DO understand, with much displeasure, that your indisposition, and not the design to sequester yourself for some time from all affairs, doth keep you in the country. I had word writ me of the contrary, but it is not extraordinary, that judgments do ground themselves upon bare appearances, nor likewise, that the discontent of the mind doth alter the health of the body the most robust. The terms of the letter, which you were pleased to write to me, do resent a little of the first; and I do believe, that the other will get strength, if you can overcome the disquietness, which the condition of your affairs doth cause unto you. I must confess, they are not in that condition as you could wish them, in regard all those fair hopes which the court gave you have not produced any elevation yet. However your condition may be supported with patience, if you consider, that the greatest persons have not been always smiled upon by fortune. I do likewise imagine myself, that you have no great cause to be so much tormented through the consideration of want, notwithstanding any disgrace whatsoever that may fall upon the charges of intendants, if you have not had some considerable loss during my abode in England; and your policy is sufficiently known unto me, not to take alarm at the taxes laid upon the intendants, nor upon the rents, whereof you have not paid any thing; only I judge that you are not yet well disposed to supply my wants, unless it be by fine prayers to God, which if they be no more efficacious than mine, I shall be suddenly brought to an ill condition. It is to be hoped, that you will be one day troubled at my ruin, since you have contributed to it, for making me to come into a country, where my inclination and many reasons did hinder me from coming; and though my negotiation have never so favourable a success, yet there will still remain some bitterness behind; and if I had come away without concluding the treaty, I perceive I should have suffered all the disgraces, wherewith it is possible to lade a negotiation.

I see that publick fame doth already condemn me, and that the fault of all the delays, which the government of England hath used towards me for almost these three years, is imputed to me, as if I suffered myself to be delayed without taking any notice of it. All my letters will justify me from this reproach before the eyes of the ministers. And although they declare to the world some discontent of my conduct, yet I have cause to believe, that they do me justice in their particulars. You did conceive me to be in some fear, that my abode here, after the last orders which were sent me, would anger them; but the last letters of the earl of Brienne do wholly dissipate my apprehensions. Here hath past nothing considerable since my last, which gave you an account of the last conference I had with the lord protector, who hath sent the royal party 20 miles distant from this city, and it is yet uncertain what he will do with them. Here is yet nothing certain of the fleet in America.

An intercepted letter from mr. Fra. Stephens to mr. Foster, at the sign of the ship in Dover.

July 26, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
p. 464.

I Shall beg the favour of you to look after a couple of trunks on saturday next, which are directed to you, and are marked with a seal in the middle. I cannot be there myself till tuesday next. A friend of mine did assure me you would assist me, I being a stranger in this place.

An intercepted letter.

MR. TAN.

Vol. xxviii.
p. 466.

I Shall desire the favour to send me word how the gentleman doth, and what he intends to do, that landed at Calais some ten days ago. He had once some trading with a nephew of mrs. Tape, in which he had no advantage: therefore I desire you to let me know what becomes of him, and advise him what you think is best to advantage himself, and not lose nor hazard the main stock. His time well spent may be to his advantage, but I hear he intends another way than he told me of. I am much his servant, and if he please to let me know in what way he would have me to serve him in here, I will; for his friend is much for his return, but I think he will not like that. I beseech you oblige me by your answer with what speed you can; which I shall not doubt, if the gentleman be near you.

July 26, 1655. [N. S.]

*Extract of a letter writ from the Vallies of Piedmont, dated 17 July, 1655.*Vol. xxviii.
p. 488.

YOU will have seen the answer, which we made to my lord ambassador of France his letter, which he writ unto us. He hath sent back his secretary unto us with another letter, tending to cause us to accept of the truce, till the peace can be concluded, and accompanied it with a writing signed by his royal highness, which doth contain, that he doth agree to it. We have agreed to it for 4 days, beginning the 29th of this month; and in the mean time we will speak to the said ambassador at Pignerol, the place agreed on for the treaty. We will not do any thing without the advice and consent of the other lords ambassadors of Switzerland and England, if he comes back, although that they do continue to serve us as they used to do formerly, to debar us as they used to do of all communication, that we cannot send any letters to them, nor to mr. Morland, who is gone away to our great grief, without knowing what impressions they may have made him to take, nor what answers we are to make unto them, and without giving him thanks for the pains he took, and the zeal he declared, as also by his means to his highness my lord protector, for the great causes, which we have had of him, and to pray him for the continuation of his graces and favours, wishing with passion that there might be somebody on his behalf here, if we come to treaty. We see that they continue to disguise our rights, and that they deny the persecutions, which they have used towards us, and that they will delay us, to weary and tire out our benefactors and mediators. Wherefore although we be resolved to accept of the desired peace, if it be a reasonable one, so likewise we ought to provide against all contrary accidents, and not send away those that are come to assist us, although this doth consume a good part of the charities that are sent us, the foot soldiers being at 9 d. per day, besides an ammunition loaf of 24 ounces; besides they are most them yet useless unto us, for want of horses. We lose, or at least we do not get much. We do forbear all hostility out of respect to the ambassador of France, who did desire it of us; but the enemy doth not forbear to come and burn the remaining parts of our houses, which are yet left unburnt. And we, to endeavour to destroy that nest of rogues at la Tour, went yesterday and assaulted them, and burnt the whole place down, except a corner, where the enemy had made a fort, which we had likewise conquered, if the enemy had not prevailed with their horse against us. We have some prisoners, amongst the rest three friers, whereof that wicked Fra. Prospero Tarana is one, and one of the chiefeft instruments and authors of our ruin. We lost seven of our soldiers, who, being loaden with plunder, could not get away fast enough.

The

The Swedish agent to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Paper cannot blush. It is my unhappineſſe, and not my ſin, that makes me to ſuffer; and the moſt of my ſuffering is for being an Engliſhman, and for having been ever true and faithfull to my native country; the which hath bred me many enemys in Swedland, who would be very glad to ſee me forſaken here, and to fall into ſome inconvenience; not that they or any of them can accuſe me of having been any way wanting in the ſervice I owe to the king my maſter, whom I have now a long time ſerved with as much fidelity as any man could have done. I have now a long time been promiſed and kept up with hopes from time to time, that my ſallary ſhould be ſent to me by exchange, elſe I would have provided myſelfe of mine owne means, which, thanks be to God, are able yet to maintaine me; but being fruſtrated of my long hopes, and the neceſſity of my preſſing departure not giving me time to ſend into Sweadland for my owne money, which would take up above two months time, I have been neceſſitated to addreſſe myſelfe to your honour, humbly beſeeching your honour to move his ſereniſſime highneſſe, that in caſe his highneſſe would be pleaſed to vouchſafe to gratify me, his moſt humble ſervant, with what I made bold to ſpeake with your honour lately, aſſoone as ever I come over, I will be ready to lay the ſame downe at his highneſſe's command and pleaſure. Sir, a thing ſoone done is double done; and therefore I am the more preſſing, my neceſſity forcing me to it. And in what place or quality I am, or hereafter ſhall be, I ſhall aſſure your honour, that I am and will ever be till death, his ſereniſſime highneſſe's moſt humble, true, faithfull, and obliged ſervant, which I will endeavour to ſhew with deeds and effects, and will always approve my ſelfe,

Covent-Garden, July 17, 1655.

Your honour's moſt humble

and faithfull ſervant,

BENJAMIN BONNEL.

I ſhall expect and hope a favourable answer from your honour.

The information of James Hely, of Sarum in the county of Wilts.

Saith,

THAT on the 12th of March laſt, being the day that the riſing was at Sarum, there were ſeen, at mr. Buckland's of Standidge in the ſaid county, ſome ten horſemen together in a party, with ſwords by their ſides, amongſt which were ſir William Courtney, ſir Charles Blunt, ſir Alexander Carre, and one mr. Rally of Donneton, this being according to the relation of a juſtice of the peace of the ſaid county; witneſs my hand, the 17th of July, 1655.

J. A. HELY.

Theſe were all papifts, and the party, at whoſe houſe they were ſeen, of the ſame religion.

A copy of the letter wrote to the count de Brienne, by Servien, the French embaffador.

MY LORD,

NOT having had the honour to receive any from you by this laſt poſt, nor by that of the foregoing, I have only to inform you of what paſt here. I will begin in telling you, that this phyſician and miniſter of Laufanne, who at his return from the Vallies of Piedmont was apprehended by the governor of Suze, the laſt week, was preſently ſet at liberty, after that copies were taken of thoſe memorandums which were found about him. I ſignified this enlargement to the ſaid Vallies, and mr. Morland, envoy of the lord protector, as done in conſideration of his majeſty, as the effects of thoſe vigorous and cordial good offices, which his majeſty hath commanded me to uſe towards their royal highneſſes, for the pacification of thoſe troubles. I believe, my lord, I ſent you word in my laſt, how that the ſaid mr. Morland is lodged and defrayed by their royal highneſſes, who gave him the firſt audience at Rivelle on ſaturday laſt. I believe they will give him that of his farewel within two or three days, having no orders to treat,

A. D. 1655. but only to desire them to receive them into mercy, and to re-establish them in their favour and their estates; and that they will endeavour (as I do exhort them to it) to send him back the best instructed and satisfied as it is possible, to the end he may make a good relation to those that sent him; as I do on my part, for the interest of the king, in the visits, which he made me, and which I gave him. He makes a great foundation upon a capitulation of the year 1561, between the earl of Raconis and the inhabitants of the said Vallies, by which they are permitted to inhabit out of the ancient limits, and to declare themselves of their religion without fear, being required. But although that this piece be essential for this particular pretence of inhabiting out of the said ancient limits, there is no original, nor any authentick copy of it to be found. All the orders of the same Emanuel Philbert, and likewise in the year 1561, and all those of his successors, do reduce them to the said ancient limits; although it be very probable, that the said capitulation of the said lord de Raconis is really intervened, in regard there are many copies not signed, and likewise allowed in printed books, by the permission of the officers of this country. But the ministers of this court, besides the want of an authentick copy, do oppose the default of the ratification, by the duke, whereof was never seen any original or copy signed. They do likewise oppose the entering thereof in the sovereign companies, without which such privileges are invalid, although they were agreed unto by the proper person of the prince. The said ministers likewise alledge, that the prince cannot subject his substitute successors to the crown, to conditions, which are prejudicial to their sovereignty, being as well sovereign in their turns, as their predecessors. Besides that such privileges cannot subsist, if not confirmed by the succeeding prince, who hath power to recal them, add, or diminish. In short, to conclude, they say, that in case all that is aforesaid were of no value, yet the last rebellion of the inhabitants rendered them guilty of the highest punishments, and consequently unworthy of all graces, which have been formerly granted unto them. And they do add, that those, who govern at present in England, ought to think it so much the less ill, in regard they have banisht and ill used the catholicks of Ireland, England and Scotland, to the prejudice of the concessions, which their legal kings had granted them.

I ought not (my lord) to omit to tell you, that I have declared to the said mr. Morland, that notwithstanding all these considerations of this court, I hoped that that of his majesty will prevail with their royal highnesses to re-establish the said inhabitants in their ancient limits, and to permit them to sell what they have purchased out of them; although that by reason of their frequent rebellions they were resolved to banish them out of their state, or at least to confiscate those estates, which they have purchased out of their limits; but that which I fear most, is the obstinacy of those people, and that they will not make such use of those graces, as they ought, which one shall procure for them.

A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.

From the Valley of Perouse in Piedmont, July 22, 1655.

Vol. xxviii.
p 496.

SINCE the departure of mr. de Servien ambassador of France his secretary, we have stood so well upon our guard, that our enemies have not been so hasty to come and surprize us; and as our brethren's courage and numbers do daily increase, and that it was not just to stand still, we resolved to make our profit of the advantage God has been pleased to give us in the three last fights; and having to that purpose deliberated upon what was to be done, it was resolved, that one should go and unneastle the Savoyards, who had entrenched themselves in the borough of the Tower. After which having put our troops in order, and called upon the name of God, we untied 1000 foot, which passed Pelles, and assaulted the borough of Lucerne, where they found some resistance, while that the main body of the army did beat the Tower, where they found some small defence by those that were within, which being unable to stand out against us, run away, and were chased out of several places in which ours went, which did not only plunder all they found therein, but did also put to death those which remained without remission; after which they fired all, and amongst other the church and house of the missionaries; and beside Fra. Prospero their superior, and chief author of the massacres, whom they have detained prisoner, and put into irons, they have made some other prisoners, and taken some quantity of arms and other provisions, and horses, which will serve them in their need. Those which were gone to Lucerne, after they had plundered some houses, withdrew themselves with the loss of one of their men, and another wounded, and taken by the enemy in their retreat. But since this expedition there hath been a truce granted for four days,

days, which doth end this day, it was granted in consequence of a letter sent by mr. de A. D. 1655. Servien to treat of an agreement. He is to come to Pignerol to treat, where some of our chiefs and our minister are to render themselves, having given us all the necessary assurances: we will inform you with the events thereof. The deputies of the evangelical cantons are come to Turin, notwithstanding their highnesses inhibitions to not come, upon the subject of our agreement, for which he would only suffer the intermission of France. We think they have order to declare war unto that duke. God give us a good peace.

A letter of intelligence.

Turin, July $\frac{28}{7}$, 1655.

OUR rebel Hugonots of the Vallies, having given a furious assault to the Tower, were strongly repulsed, although joined by 400 foot and 50 horse, come from France, from whence they receive, as well as from Geneva, and from the cantons, all necessary provisions; and being since returned they have burned a cloister of monks, and carried away the superior; but having been followed by the catholicks in their retreat, they have lost 60 men, amongst which is Paulo Vachiero their chief. In the interim the ordinary ambassador of France and the deputy sent by his majesty into those quarters to treat of an agreement, have often been visited to that purpose by marquis de Pianezza. That four deputies of the Swiss cantons are also here arrived to that purpose, and the agreement is so much the more expected, by reason the French ambassador is going to morrow for Pignerol to labour thereunto. My lord protector's envoy parted from hence on sunday last.

At last prince Thomaso joined with the duke of Modena; after several counterfeittings to assault Lody and Cremona, they besieged Pavia the $\frac{24}{7}$ instant, and have already taken the bridge and a half moon, so that it is thought they will carry it within 20 or 25 days at furthest.

The marquis Ville doth still remain in his post of Lomellina, giving great jealousy to Verfeil, from whence the governor has been forced to send out the syndic and several other inhabitants little affected unto him.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, August $\frac{11}{8}$, 1655.

UPON complaint made unto the council of state concerning some ill usage made of late to some poor protestants which lived at Langres, a decree has been given, by which his majesty permits unto all those of the religion his subjects, to dwell in what place soever of his kingdom, be it within or upon the frontiers as they shall find good; his majesty understanding that they should enjoy the same freedoms and liberties as his catholick subjects, so that they undertake nothing against the good of his service, enjoining unto all governors and magistrates to not trouble nor hinder them, but on the contrary help and comfort them in case of need, under great penalties.

Vol. xxviii.
p. 498.

The king having written unto the duke of Lesdiguières to not suffer any of the religion to pass to go to the relief of the persecuted protestants, whilst his majesty has given order about their agreement, the said duke has returned an answer, that his majesty must declare war against the protestants of Dauphiné and Languedoc to hinder it. We have no news from our army since the 6th instant, that it was written from Maubeuge, that 4000 horse were united under the command of mr. de Castelnau, which went and seized the little city of Bovines, and 4000 under mr. de Uxelles were gone towards Sambre to hinder the enemies passage, which were posted under Montz. The king was that day to depart from Maubeuge with all the army to follow mr. Castelnau: their design is unknown. But this march makes us believe they aim at Luxemburgh; some think it is for Namur, but that place is too much advanced, and the siege could not be made unless the Liegeois were willing. A short time will make us see clearly.

The letters from Marseilles say, that besides the loss of our five gallies, they had ill news of four ships of our army, which went before to land some foot soldiers in the gulph of Specia, namely, that they have been met and taken by the Spanish fleet, and some say besieged in the gulph; but this news is yet uncertain.

The duke of Mantua arrived here on saturday night, and went to the palace of Longueville, where he is sumptuously feasted, he will stay there some eight or ten days for his train, and then will go towards the king, who will, as it is thought, repair to Mefieres.

It is said that Marienburg and Barlemont are besieged.

*A letter of intelligence.*Paris, July $\frac{23}{8}$, 1655.

A. D. 1655.
 Vol. xxviii.
 p. 492.

WE are informed, that the court is gone from la Fere, and that the king arrived at Guise the $\frac{23}{8}$ instant. The Capelle and the Chastelet have been found so well provided with men and all necessaries for their defence, that our generals have not yet framed any siege, both that they might not expose our soldiers to the butchery, as also because they will not hinder the other progresses they make in the enemies country, whose army, as also the taking of Landrecy, do afford us great advantages, which in all likelihood will be crowned by some other siege. The cardinal doth much watch Rocroy, because of Sedan; but mr. le prince has given such good orders thereunto by his last voyage there, that it will hardly be taken. We are informed, that mr. Guyonnet, overseer of the said prince's house, having been brought prisoner to Quesnoy, and not to Paris, hath saved himself; and as during his imprisonment he has received letters from the said prince, and had conferences with the duke of Grammont, it is from thence inferred, that he hath let himself be taken to treat about the said prince's agreement with the king; but the hatred the queen and cardinal Mazarin bear him is so implacable, that this overseer's escape seems to be a craftiness for to render the Spaniards jealous of his said master. You may see our other news in our two following extracts.

*A letter of intelligence.*Grenoble, July $\frac{1}{8}$, 1655.

WE are informed, that the troops of Savoy, being gone to assault the protestants of the Vallies of Piedmont, in an intrenchment, upon which their chief commander had caused few men to appear before the spies of their enemies, on purpose to draw them, but that he did so well receive them in their assault, that 200 Savoyards were killed upon the place, and the others forced to retire with the shame of being followed very far on the plain. And that, being come to revenge themselves by Pignerol, and try to make some other attempt, they had again been repulsed beyond the river of Chison, with another considerable loss. So that we see God's providence doth watch for the preservation of these poor persecuted, who find themselves reinforced with 4 or 500 experienced soldiers. Nevertheless they desire their agreement may suddenly be made, whereunto my lord protector's deputies together with those of Swisserland and Geneva do much labour towards the duke, insisting that punishment may be made of the authors of this massacre.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, July 28, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxviii.
 p. 514.

THE town of Landrecy being reduced to the obedience of the king and the arms of his majesty, according to the capitulation made between them, the enemy marched out of it 1500 horse and foot, and 300 wounded, with arms and baggage, and two pieces of ordnance; for which *Te Deum* was sung here on wednesday last.

Yesterday came news, that Capelle and Chastelet were both besieged, the first by the marquis of Castelnau, and the other by the marquis of Durelles, defended by monsieur de Senfy for the prince of Condé.

The letters from Marseilles of the 13th do confirm the shipwreck, that hath been made of five galleys, with the loss of all the men, above 3000 in number.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, July 28, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxviii.
 p. 500.

THE king of France hath had great success this year, first, in Catalonia (where Mompoyard is, and hath gotten a good recruit) upon taking of a town there; secondly, towards Milan, where the French besiege Valence, and have gotten Casal, by composition with the duke of Mantua, whom they expect at Paris within few days; and thirdly, towards Flanders, by the taking of Landrecy; so as now they think to fetch contribution as far as Brussels, and it is probable will sit down before some other town this year. This makes them high in France, and (as is reported) not so desirous of peace with England as they were; the rather because the news from Hispaniola makes them believe, that Spain and England must certainly fall out; whereas the French desired peace chiefly with England, to keep off their assistance to Spain against France. By the way I heard of a pleasant story of a picture set to sale on Pont-neuf, wherein the lord protector was sitting on a close-stole at his business, and the king of Spain on the one side, and the king of France on the other, offering him paper to wipe his breech. But there was great offence taken at it, and the pictures were taken away.

A letter

A letter of intelligence.

Cologne, July 28, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

THIS brings this, that wednesday last Middleton and Belcarris were made friends by Charles Stuart himself, and all hush'd. The same day that the calumny was taken off, Belcarris propounded to the king from the body of the Scots presbyterians, that if the duke of York or prince Rupert might be solely left to be their leaders and managers of that affair, and that Hyde might not be privy to any thing of it, or that party, that then all their interest for money, men, and arms, should be employed against you. And now he proceeds to treat concerning a reconciliation between Charles Stuart and the queen, which is the sum of all his business at present. Particulars you shall know as they fall out.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
p. 508.

The same day prince Rupert had an express came to him from the Landgravine of Hesse, which shortned his stay at Cologne, and made Charles Stuart abruptly make him the proposal, which was suddenly answered, viz. that he would quit all employments to serve him, and he would endeavour to defer his journey for Modena this summer, if an handsom conjunction might be procured with all parties, he would serve him with all his interest, either in men, money, arms, and friends; and so the next day took his journey for Hesse, as ill satisfied as ever with Hyde. The same day Ormond, lord Newburgh, and O Neil, went from hence in disguise into Holland; as also arrived here old Goring, Philips, and Heath; and by the post this day we hear of Wagstaffe, Darcy, and sir James Hamilton's being got on this side the sea; and the marquis of Newcastle's horses are come, of which I gave you timely notice, as also of the lord Downe's.

The lord Gerard was sent hence on friday, the lord Craven with him. They are to treat with Newcastle, Maffey, Langdale, and others, and are to endeavour the new modelling of our plots. They being sent, I come not to Antwerp.

Gerard is to go then into France, to treat with the duke of York, queen, &c. Most of his stay will be at Calais. If you sent somebody to observe his actions, you would do well; for hearing Talbot, Stephens, &c. to be taken, he intends to attempt the murder of the protector; and remember I have warned you of the Park.

At Alexander Green's house, an inn in Manchester, Wilmot, Lloyd, &c. were well known, and lay, and there treated with the presbyterians of those parts.

Day of Dover, &c. are rogues. I have yours of the 6th and 13th old stile. I expect your answer to this and my other letters.

De Vries, the Dutch envoy in Denmark, to the states general.

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

MY lords, being arrived here on the 25th instant, I have ever since endeavoured to find out, if any or what knowledge there may be at court, of the present designs of the Swedes, and as far as I have been able to get information, it is certainly believed, that this armament is designed against Poland, and that the city and harbour of Dantzick, as yet, has not to fear any attack; however that they would endeavour to secure the river Weyßel (Vistula) above the town, to get the corn which is coming down there into their possession. I can see no sign, that there is any favour or support to be expected from this crown, in behalf of the design of the Swedes; and they assure me in general, that this kingdom had always shewed itself, and would not be wanting for the future actually to shew itself, to be most seriously and to the highest degree concerned in the dominion of the Baltick sea, and that the same, together with your high mightinesses, as well in the article of trade as otherwise, had unfeignedly one and the same interest in view. I find likewise, that neither by letters, nor by the Swedish envoy, any open mention has been made of any apprehension of your high mightinesses speculation or intention against the designs of the king of Sweden, and consequently it is not likely that any deliberations on that head have been held here. To bring this about, as also the last article contained in your high mightinesses letters of the 7th instant, I see hardly any likelihood, unless your high mightinesses think fit to give me further and nearer charge, to communicate the same openly to one of the lords of the high government here, who have always shewn a great affection towards our state, which however in case necessity should require it, ought to be done, with submission to your high mightinesses, in a more rough and precipitate manner. And in this case (which I, with submission, humbly propose) it would be of great service, if your high mightinesses would be pleased to facilitate

Vol. xxviii.
p. 512.

A. D. 1655. a little the conferences there with the Danish deputies; upon which subject I have been seriously pressed by way of discourse.

They continue here, out of respect towards your high mightinesses, to care for the rear-admiral Tromp very much, so far, that he dined last Sunday with his majesty.

Two ships belonging to the subjects of your high mightinesses are seized near Iceland, by the company that is trading thither, and brought in here. The owners whereof have petitioned for the restitution of the same, and I have recommended this affair already.

Wherewith, &c.

Copenhagen, July 28,
1655. [N. S.]

High and mighty lords, &c.

(Sign'd)

V. DE VRIES.

Mr. Nathaniel Brewster to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONNOURABLE,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 524.

MAY it please your honour to beare with the rude salutation of your Christian friend and servant, who is emboldened hereto by the experience of your love. Since I saw your honour I had a wearisome journey to West Chester, where I overtook my lord Henry the evening before his departure to Holyhead, and came with his honour safely and comfortably to Dublin, as I suppose your honour is already informed (of which also I have presumed to certify his highness.) There is one occasion somewhat forceible upon me in this undertakeinge of writeing to your honour.

One lieutenant Axtell, formerly mentioned to the counsell, and to your honour, yet delayed (in his distressed condition) entreats your honour's mediation (as occasion shall serve) either to the counsell, or to the lord St. John, in such matters as by his petition shall be explained to them.

Honorable sir, I love not to intrude upon a person of your place and charge, in respect of your many incumbencies; but I must needs reporte this Axtell to your honour, as a very confiding usefull man, both for clerkship and armes, and a sad object of pitty in this juncture of his affaires, when he is undone by his good will to the commonwealth. Please your honour to send for him upon the delivery hereof (himselfe being appointed to be the bearer and to attend at the doore) that he may know your pleasure. The Lord bleesse your honour, so resteth

Your honour's humble and faithfull servant,

Dublin, July 18, 1655.

NATHANIEL BREWSTER.

An information.

July 18, 1655.

Vol. xxviii.
p. 522.

MR. Roger Pawlet told me, that he heard esquire Windham say unto his brother Gilles Pawlet, that he the said esquire Windham would within a short time charge this lord protector at Whitehall gate, though hee were a better man then hee is. And Pawlet replied, that he spake treason, and that he would acquaint the lord protector and his counsell with it. Then the aforesaid Windham replied, that he would save him the labor, he would kill him presently, unless he would answer him in the feild. And further the aforesaid Roger Pawlet said, that Thomas Hazard and others heard these wordes the same time. This is the copeny of mr. John Bryne's information. The partys will not say the same to me, therefore I intend to have them to a justis, and put them to there oaths. I am perswaded to it by som, who doe think they will not only say that, but much more.

*Severall considerations to bee humbly represented to his highnesse the lord protector
and counsell concerning the army in America.*

Jamaica, July 18, 1655.

AS wee doe with all thankfullnesse acknowledge his highnesse care in ordering considerable supplies and accomodations for the army, though it pleased God by his providence to retard them,

A. D. 1655.

Vol. xxviii.

P. 528.

Soe for the future it's humbly desired and hoped, that his highnesse will please from time to time to order uppon the termes formerly agreed on accomodations of cloatheing for officers and souldiers, and all manner of workeing tooles and instruements better then those now received, for the wood generally is soe hard, and the edge tooles soe badd, as they are scarce serviceable; as alsoe bread, oatemeale, brandy, armes and ammunition, physick and medicines, &c.

That servants from Scotland or elsewhere may bee sent to assist in planting, &c. for which the officers out of their paie will make such allowance as his highnesse shall thinke fitt, and assigne them such proportions of land, as his highnesse shal direct at the expiration of their respective termes. By this means wee shal bee enabled to make provisions for such as are already here, and such as shal bee sent hither by his highnesse for further service; and they wil bee in a readinesse for such other imployment as his highnesse shall command.

That the allotment and distribution of land to the respective regiments of the army already approved of by his highnesse commissioners may bee ratified by his highnesse sanction, the allotment made to the Christopher's regiment (which is to bee reduced) excepted.

That such encouragement, as his highnesse shall thinke fitt, may bee given and granted to such, as shall desire to come from England, or any other English collonies.

That in regard it may happen, as by experience it hath done, that the supplies ordered and intended us by his highnesse, may not seasonably arrive by reason of contrary windes, by means whereof the army may bee distrest and reduced to exigency, that his highnesse will please to enable the army to take upp necessary provisions for our accommodation of such marchant shipp or shippes, as shall come into the harbours of this island, and to draw bills for payment on such treasury in England as his highnesse shall thinke fitt, the same not exceeding ten thousand pounds.

That for the better regulatunge and ordering this little commonwealth, and encouragement of such as desire to live under a civill and settled government, his highnesse will please to make such constitutions and lawes, as his highnesse shall thinke meete for the government of this place, or impower such in the place, as his highnesse shall approve of, to make and constitute from time to time such wholesome and necessary lawes, as shal bee most fitt for the better ordering and government of thinges here; and to erect court and courts of justice and equity for decideing of controversies betweene party and party, and power granted to allow such officer and officers as shal bee employed such salary as shal bee thought needfull.

That in regard much inconvenience hath beene found by the distinct and independant command of the army and fleete, his highnesse would please to order, that both may bee under one command, and that power may bee given to erect courts of admiralty, and grant commissions to private men of warre, to annoy and infest the enemys of our nation.

That his highnesse will please to allow that such marchant or marchants, as shal bee willing to advance the service and plantation of this island, may have all due encouragement; and that such person or persons as his highnesse shall please to appoynt and authorize heere may bee enabled to treat and contract with him or them accordingly.

That for as much as the officers have found by sad experience, that the generality of the private souldiers of this army are men of low spiritts, apt to receive impressions of fear, and basely desert their officers and service, his highnesse bee humbly desired for the more effectually carryeing on the warre in these parts, to order a considerable supply of well disciplined, approved, and experienced souldiers, such as have beene accustomed to hardshipp in Ireland, or elsewhere, well accomodated with provisions, leather bottles, tents, &c.

Signed by the field officers of the army.

Richard Fortescue,
Samuel Barry,
Philip Ward,
Henry Archboul,
Andrew Carter,

Richard Holdipp,
Edward Doyley,
Henry Bartlett,
William Smith,
Vin. Corbett,

Francis Barrington,
John Read,
Michael Bland,
William Jordan,
Robert Smith.

VOL. III.

8 F

Bordeaux,

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to count de Charost, governor of Calais.

London, July $\frac{12}{9}$, 1655.

MY LORD,

A. D. 1655. **I** AM very glad to hear, that the armies of the king do prosper every where; and I hope that so many good successes will at last bring the Spaniards to consent to a peace.

Vol. xxviii.
P. 544.

Here is a report, that they have been more successful in a great fight, which they have sustained in the port of Carthage against the fleet of this state: it is said, that Penn and 3000 of his men are slain upon the place. But this is not well known nor certain. You will have heard of the revocation of the private letters of marque, which was published three days since. But yet this doth not secure our merchants from the frigates of this state, which are the only ships they are to fear. I am

Your most humble servant.

Middlesex *The examination of John Barton of the parish of Andrews Holborn, in the county of Middlesex, surgeon, aged 26 years, taken July 19, 1655, before John Barkstead, esq; lieutenant of the Tower of London, and one of the justices of the peace for the said county.*

Vol. xxviii.
P. 536.

THIS examine saith, that he went into York with his uncle mr. Philip Gill, when he was 13 years of age, which mr. Gill was surgeon to the earl of Caernarvon, and from thence soon after Edghill fight went to Oxford with his said uncle, and continued about a year and an half in the said garrisons of York, Oxford, and afterwards at Newark with his said uncle, and then returned to London, where he lived with his friends till his said uncle came out of the king's army, with whom he again lived, and after some time that they had continued together, saith, that his said uncle took a house in Drury Lane in this examine's name, which was owned so; and saith that he continued there with his said uncle two years, about which time his said uncle removed to lodgings in the Strand, and soon after died, since whose death this examine hath remained as a lodger in the said house, till he came to the house where he now lodgeth, and there he hath continued three or four months. Being asked, what arms he hath bought lately, and for whom, and for what use, saith, that about Christmas last he bought for major Norwood both carbines and pistols at two or three places in Tower Street, and one place in the Strand at one mr. Palmer's; and saith that the occasion of his buying them was, for that when major Norwood was ill, he this examine was his surgeon, and by that means was intrusted by him; but he saith, he knoweth not for what use they were other than to send to Virginia, where the said major Norwood told this examine he was a trader, and knoweth not what quantity of them he then bought as aforesaid. Being asked the names of those, of whom he bought the said arms in Tower Street, saith, that he knoweth not their names. Being asked, where he caused the said pistols to be delivered, saith, that he delivered them to one mr. Curfis, a merchant, by the direction of the said major Norwood: saith, that he thinketh the said mr. Curfis lived in Lime Street. Being asked, how he came by the money, with which he bought the said carbines and pistols, saith, that he received money for the same at several times of the said major Norwood, and that he thinketh he received of him and disposed as aforesaid about 100l. Being asked what he paid a pair for his pistols, and a score for his carbines, saith, that he doth not remember; and further saith not.

J. BARTON.

J. BARKSTEAD.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxviii.
P. 560.

IN my last of the 23d current I advysed you, that a gentleman was com to town from Rome, one doctor Bailey, whos bisnes here was for credit, pretending to be employed by you at the sayd place about greate affairs, wherewith he did in some measure acquaint me; wherupon I sent away a man with his letters the 24th current, to overtak the

French

French post at Genoa; and indeed your former propofals to me to fynd you out a fit man to correspond with at Rom, made me the sooner giv credit to this gentleman's relation; befys he shewed me a litle peice of paper under your hand, wherein you bid him wryt you, under my cover; al which, with divers other circumstances, hav perswaded me, he is no counterfeit; which has made me, contrary to my usual way, to part with som mony, without your order, upon his urgent intrety and many protestations, that without it his hyhnes bisnes would very much suffer. I hav furnisht him with two hundred dollers, as by the inclosed receit you wil fynd, which I shal sudenly draw upon you. The gentleman seems to be ingenious, a lover of his countrey, and a great servant of yours; but I must tel you his bisnes is publikly known throuhout al Italy; and althoh I hav disowned him to al, yet his enquiryng for credit from mr. John Upton, a merchant, your ladye's brother, mr. Lidcut answered, mr. Upton had marryed his sifter; wherupon our nation here ar lykewys posselt, that he is employed by you. He is stil in town, but intends again for Rom within a day or two. This last week I am advysed from Rom, that a gentleman is com thether to prepare way for an ambassadour from the exyld king of Scots. Whether this report may be raised from doctor Baylye's coming thether, in few dayes I shal know.

This day has past by this port 13 gallyes, 20 ships, and 3 fyreships, with about 8000 soldiers, taken in at Naples, which they ar to land upon the coast of Genoa, to go for Milan. Two of the gallyes, on of which is the duk of Turti, cam into this port, to hear what newes. An Inglish ship, that wants 12 dayes from Allicant, reports, the Spaniard presses al the Duch ships they can fynd in theyr ports (even Duch men of war) to go for Cales, to mak up a fleet, to reliev theyr West-India fleet expected ther.

By letters from Constantinople of the 22d of May Inglish styl, sir Thomas Bendish, the ambassadour, had bin with the grand vizier, and very wel pacified him concerning the burning of the ships at Tunis; insomuch, that al things were then quyet. The Venetian armado and the Turks hav met; the latter brok throh, with the los of about 10 sail, and ar al gon for Candia with soldiars. I am,

Right honourable,

Leghorn, July 30, 1655. [N. S.]

Your faithful servant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

An intercepted letter.

Antwerp, July 30, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

I AM now come to this place, and in four days intend, God willing, to see Calais; and if this find you not gone, it is to perswade your meeting. What you writ cannot be an obstacle, but rather a reason, for your journey. I pray you be advised by my brother, how to pass the papers. I pray take care, as not to prejudice your self. I would rather expect a little longer, than precipitate your haste, but I have made a great step out of the road to see you; therefore do not fail.

The superscription,

To mr. John Fleming, at the Unicorne inn
in Holborn.

An intercepted letter.

THOMAS HUNGERFORD, alias THOMAS BROOKS, to mr. WILLIAM MATHEWS.

St. Sebastian's, July 30, 1655. [N. S.]

DEAR M.

THROUGH no small mercy I am come safe to this place, from whence I am now going to the town, the factors (I am to take their accompts) meet me at. I question not but to make a sudden return, and do upon good grounds think shall quickly dispatch my business here, in that all is fairly ingrossed before hand; so that my only business will be, to view them over, to see whether the sums be right cast up, and no more put down for factorage than ought. For what your last letter informed me of, which I had from you before I took this journey, to which I gave as brief an answer as time would permit, being in hast at that present, I am very sensible of, upon which

score

A. D. 1655 score shall, I hope, have a care of being nonsuited by the craftiness of those lawyers employed against me; and for the judgment my greatest creditor hath yet out, I question not its reversion before the bailiffs will catch me, let him do his worst. I confess it is my desire, as it becomes an honest man, to pay all my debts, without being compelled thereunto; but this, though it's endeavoured to be made one, I accompt none, as I hope shall in the end make it appear, and that before he thinks of it; for though he thinks he hath absolutely undone and ruined my credit, yet I trust in God, in despite of the worst he can do, before many months be over our head, to appear again upon the exchange, and to have more credit there than he; for to compound with him I shall never do, nor hope shall be necessitated thereunto. I have some friends as great in estate and credit as he, that will stand by me, if that little I have abroad, which I am getting in, will not do it; for the abuse he hath offered me cannot be thus put up. I understand his highness, as becomes a father of his country, is about to remedy what is amiss both in church and state; and so hope will remedy what's amiss in the proceedings of the law. However I question not in the end to get justice, notwithstanding the vapours of my adversary of his interest in the officers of his highness's army, which, if true, I know his highness is so worthy a person, will not, I hope, suffer any of them to countenance any unjust proceedings to hinder the course of the law; but if it be so, I think I shall be able by friends to make some, for I never understood others but angels would cause the blind to see, as well as the deaf to hear, when reason was shut out of doors. I believe there is never a godly man in England, but will hearken to that call, lest they should be counted slights of providence; and for others, I think are not suffered to plead at the bar of justice; but I know what will make their tongues come glib. I give my true thanks for the great care you have had, and I question not but still have, of what was committed to your care. Your continuance I beg, till God shall order things otherwise, which will be before you think of it.

An intercepted letter from mr. Thomas Hungerford to mr. John Keiph, merchant.

Saint Sebastian's, July 30, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 588.

I AM by the good hand of God come safe to St. Sebastian. I am now at the writing hereof taking horse to go to the place appointed for the factors to meet me, to make up our accompts. I make no doubt, if God blefs me with health, suddenly to dispatch what I have to do, to the consent of all my principals, and that all will concur in my poor judgment about those things that are intricate. All trade in these parts will be left to my ordering, that is, whether I will return the stocks I find in their factors hands home, or go upon some other trade: and at present in my thoughts it is the safest to take all home, for the times are very dangerous for poor merchants, that with so much care and danger have got any thing, to lose it in a moment would very much trouble one; therefore, for my own part, shall draw away all, and so with it yours, except you suddenly give me other order, for a breach with us and this people I do very much fear, but it is not amiss to prevent the worst. I shall make no stay here after I have done my business. As I said to you in my last, so I say again, go not to trial with that cheating factor, that caused me this journey by his knavery, till I have cast up those accompts, as you desire to have the verdict given on our side, who I am sure have the right to have it so pass; and I do not fear, without boasting or flattering you, to have it, if you can stay 'till I come, and on this depend. And for our trade, I question not but the partners for their own gain will be secret; I am sure it is known to none else. You do not know what I would give to talk with you one hour, but I hope the time will not be long before I shall be nearer unto you. I am shortned in time, shall refer all to my next.

An intercepted letter from mr. Thomas Hungerford to mr. Thomas Sommes, merchant.

Saint Sebastian's, July 30, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 590.

I AM by the good hand of providence come safe to St. Sebastian's, from which place I am now going to meet the factors, that are to give up their accompts to me. I do not question, but with much content to all my principals, I shall do their business as well as my own, for all their profits and advantage. I shall return from this place to that I came from

from (through God's assistance) within the time my last to you mentioned, for a sudden A. D. 1655. dispatch will be made by me, in that all, that are concerned in these accounts, have left all to my ordering. Therefore I pray do not go to trial with the factor for the goods intrusted in his hand, that hath converted them to his own use, without giving us an accompt of them, till I have cast up all the accompts here, lest you lose the trial; for the judges, before whom it shall come, be good men. When they have heard what I can say, the judge cannot but give the case on our side; but if the factor's interest should prevail above reason, God will send some good angel to open their eyes, and through their solicitation and splendor, question not the case to go well in that it's just, for most men will understand and see, when things are made so plain, as I doubt not but to make them.

An intercepted letter from Thomas Hungerford to mr. Isaac Kemp, merchant.

St. Sebastian's, July 30, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

MY obligations to you are many: for them all at present; I can give you no other Vol. xxviii. testimony of my grateful acknowledgment and value I put upon them, but by my p. 564. thanks to you for them, with assurance no person shall suffer in their credit by giving me their interest amongst their friends, to do their business in these parts or in other places. To be brief, these lines serve to tell you of my health, and that through mercy I am come safe to St. Sebastian's, my journey by sea being but fifteen days, from whence I am going to that place appointed to meet the factors, that are to give up their accompts to me, and question not to dispatch what I have to do with much speed, in that all is left to my ordering. Sir, I hope to do my business to all your contents, in that it will be questionless to all my principals advantage, that proving according as I see no other reason but it will, I ought not to be chid if I should draw away your estates, for fear of the worst, though the damage should not be such, I at present fear, if left it; for you will say it is not good a merchant's stock should lye dead: but that scruple may be prevented, if you go on in that design you thought on; and assure yourself, if I go upon those goods, I shall not be wanting to do you the best service I can; and for your estates here, I will order as much over in ready cash as with safety may judge shall stop the eye of the searchers, for you know how difficult all this is to do, for if taken it is all lost; but what I cannot do this way shall give good bills upon sufficient persons, though cannot but acknowledge to the dishonour and shame of those factors, people of my own cloth, that I know few to be trusted; for some through poverty play least in sight, when once got our estate into their hands, others through impudence will keep it. This you and I have had experience of about the goods we entrusted mr. Murray with as our factor, to dispose of for our best advantage, who hath kept our stock in his own hands, and with it set up for himself, and scorns to give an accompt; so corrupt at present is the law, but I hope it will not be always so; for I believe his highness, as a good patron, will mend that as well as other things that are amiss; so that I desire you and my partners in that cargo of goods, which that knave hath abused us in, that we are in a suit about, that you come not to a trial with him, till I have cast up the accompts I am upon here, lest you be baffled by him again; and fear not, if you will stay till I have done it, I shall be able to say more in your business than all your other witnesses; and on this you may depend.

I trust in God, if I have my health continued shall be at the place I went from within these six weeks, but before that I will write to you, as I pray do you to me. I have some things about those accompts, which I dare not commit to paper; but this in brief take notice of, it was no small mercy to you and others, as well as myself, to have them in my hands, for in them is more than you can dream of, or if told may at present credit. I shall be faithfull to all my principals to prevent them from being abused.

A Letter of intelligence from the Hague.

July 23, 1655. [N. S.]

THIS morning there was nothing but a serious complaint from the states of the Vol. xxviii. country of Cleve, which is put without resumption into the hands of commissioners, p. 380. who were this day again in the afternoon to consult with the lord Wyman, about the projected treaty of alliance to be made with the elector of Brandenburg.

They write a letter to the *chambre mypartie*, accusing the delays, which are used by the Spanish side, in the process about the country of Outre-Meuse.

A. D. 1655. In Holland they speak of sending an extraordinary commissioner to Denmark, under pretence of redressing some abuses in the toll, or passage money, but in effect to engage that king against Sweden.

July 24.

This morning the Danish ministers caused to be exhibited a long and pertinent writing, or deduction, larded with much Latin, laws, and passages of treaties, to prove, that this state is obliged to pay to the Danes all the prizes, which the English made upon the Danes during the war with England. It is to be examined. And in regard that this deduction is so besprinkled with Latin, and texts of the law, there were some that did advise, that there ought to be some civilians called to consult upon it.

The ræet pensionary and other commissioners are gone to Haerlem, to induce the magistrate to a certain formality concerning the excise of beer.

This day is the great advice of the council of state concerning the retorsion against Limburgh, with other resolutions.

Yesterday there having been a conference concerning the treaty with Brandenburg, this morning the lord Wyman caused the report to be made by the lord president. But those of Holland did declare, that they were not ready, hoping that this afternoon they should deliberate upon it, and that it may be to-morrow they would declare themselves, for the lord Wyman very much pressed it, saying, that he holds the treaty for broken off, in case that on monday the 26th they do not make some conclusion in it. It is very much doubted, whether Holland have a true intention to conclude.

July 26.

I do not perceive, that since the 24th there hath been much consulted in the assembly of Holland concerning the treaty with Brandenburg; and I know not whether that will yet be effected. On the behalf of Poland there hath been a new solicitation made to Holland to engage them to send thirty ships towards the Baltick Sea, according to the project of treaty made at the end of the English war, and wherewith the resident de Bye was sent into Poland. Poland offereth half of the charges, for the summer months, for the time that the fleet shall be at sea. But Holland doth desire caution, or that the city of Dantzick may be obliged. And besides, since that Denmark doth shew itself to confide, there is little likelihood that Holland will meddle with Prussia; likewise it is said, that the king of Sweden will not be strong.

The lord Wyman hath very much insisted to have expedition, and Holland (chiefly Amsterdam) hath had the apprehension, that the elector of Brandenburg would join his troops to the Swedes, and by this means both together would be masters of Prussia; so that Holland at last hath resolved to accept the alliance with Brandenburg, to separate Brandenburg from Sweden, and by this means to break so much the more the design of Sweden.

Concerning the precedency, there is still some dispute; but of that they will endeavour to make some agreement by a conference more express. And in regard they perceive the king of Denmark to be so cold, fearing that there may be some correspondence between them and Sweden, Holland hath proposed to send a commissioner for Denmark, which is as good as agreed on, and there is one named out of each province to draw up an instruction.

July 27.

They have authorised the said commissioners, who were formerly in England about the business of the 30th article of the treaty of peace (as the lord Aelmond, Rosenburg, Oisfel, &c.) likewise to attend the business, which is to be debated the next month at Amsterdam, being yesterday resolved to dispatch their commission.

July 28.

Since that Holland had moved the question to the lord Capelle, to persuade him from signing the treaty with Brandenburg, others did likewise move a question for the lord Beverning, that he is not capable to sign the said treaty, till such time that he had made report and given an account of his negotiation in England concerning the seclusion, about which there hath been great contestation. Behold here already the first fruit, which Holland gathereth from the treaty.

There hath been likewise a great contestation concerning the oath, which they have annexed of those, who are commissioners in the business of East-Friesland, to take no present from the parties, which some of those commissioners had altogether opposed.

Concerning

Concerning the business, and the sending towards Overijssel, those of Holland have delivered their advice, which is more for Deventer than for the others. There hath been complaint, that in Brabant they have taken and put into a monastery some children of a man of Amsterdam. There are some here, that did threaten to imprison all the priests.

July 30.

They have resolved to write to the archduke, and to those of Lisle, for the enlargement of two children, who are put into a monastery against their minds, or that this state will seek some other remedy; and the ambassador is likewise to be spoken to about it.

Those of Holland have contradicted the order of the council of state, given to make retorsions against those of Limburgh; so that thereupon a conference is ordered to be held with the said council of state for this morning, but it will be the afternoon first.

There being a report that Brederode was dead, it did cause some to speak already for his charge.

Holland hath proposed several points of good husbandry: they are still labouring about reduction of interests; North Holland is very much against it. The cities of Delph, Rotterdam, and Brill, do continue to complain against those of Dort concerning the channel: those of Dort continue notwithstanding to finish the channel, and fearing some violences from the said cities, to undo all that they have done, they have raised 60 soldiers, keeping watch by night out of the city, to be advertised, if those of the other cities should fall upon them by night; and the company of lieutenant colonel Doleman is likewise in garrison at Dort.

At Gorcum they have plundered and pulled down the house of the burgomaster Vanderkolck, father-in-law to the Drossard, who doth keep here to complain of that and his other differences; and although that the right doth evidently appear to be on his side, what shall a man do against an university? The lord de Baerendrecht and others have communicated to the ministers of Denmark, that the protector hath declared to have no share in the design of Sweden, and that he will not treat about any thing to the prejudice of this state. They will write again by this post to the lord Nieuport, that he do continue to induce the protector to associate himself with this state, and Denmark to countermine the design of the Swedes.

Those of Holland signified to the generality, that they are resolved to reduce the interest from 5 to 4, requiring the generality to do the like.

Prince Maurice hath signified to the president, that he is returning to Cleve.

Those of Holland have proposed to cause the cavalry to return to their old garrisons, under pretence, that it is time to provide themselves at present with hay. But others believe, that Holland doth foresee the death of Brederode, and after that the absence of the horse might do them harm: if he dieth, it is thought that Holland will make the lord Beverweert head of the militia.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

SIR,

The states of Holland
105
Amsterdam
treaty Brandenburg
have at last likewise agreed in the 155 with 170, and that chiefly
Vol. xxviii.
p. 618.
by the induction of those of 112, who have suffered themselves to be terribly gull'd this
Brandenburg
Denmark
time by those of 170, as in the year 1649 by those of 14, and, as well then as now,
purely and simply blinded, through the gain and profit of drawing to themselves, or
trade
keeping all the 179, with the excluding of all others. And to say, that they have the same
Denmark
design, you must take notice, they will do all that they can to induce 142 to associate
Sweden
themselves to it, and to render 141 little, to the end they may be able to shut the 165 to
the protector
Amsterdam the protector
those of 130 when they please; for be assured that 112 doth hold 130 more suspected (as
to trade) than any other. The truth is not more truer than that. I could tell you many
particulars of that. But believe it as *folium Sybillæ*. It is true likewise, that there are
the states of Holland
the Orange party
royalists
many honest men amongst 105, who do no wise love 145 nor the 146. But
Amsterdam
believe me, that in 112 there are strange men; and I do firmly believe, that one, who
hath

A. D. 1655. hath the chieft direction in 112 is altogether for 148, and I ought to have this opinion
 Amsterdam the prince of Orange
 Amsterdam the states of Holland alliance Brandenburg
 of all 112, yea of all 104; for the present 155 with 170, whereof is a most evident
 the Orange party alliance the Orange party
 argument, that 145 are mighty glad of this 155, as likewise they were only 145
 alliance
 that did continually press and labour for this 155, not within these few months, but since
 good Hollanders
 the year 1646; and the 173 alone were those, who did always contradict it, and have
 the good Hollanders
 hindred it; and now at this time (I do protest to you) I know that all 173 are very
 the protector
 sorry for it; but those of 112 (*ex puro amore lucri & ex invidia* 130) have as it were forced
 the good Hollanders the states of Holland they
 them; for really 173 defer much to 105, and 105 defer much to
 Amsterdam trade the states general states of Holland
 112, knowing that 179 is as the soul of 104 and 105.
 the Orange party
 I could in some sort digest all, if I did not see, that 145 were so over-joyed at it, and if
 prince William
 I did not know, that 149 and the like had so much endeavoured it. Yea, I do assure you,
 the Orange party alliance good Hollanders seclusion
 that 145 do believe to have got more by this 155 than the 173 by the 180
 f e c l u s i o n
 (or 37. 24. 22. 88. 97. 33. 86. 33. 90.) However they may likewise be deceived; for
 the good Hollanders Utrecht Zeland the Orange party
 there are still some of 173 as well in 107 as in 106 and elsewhere. But 145 are a far
 Amsterdam trade
 greater number, and 112 is blinded by 179, and have a very great jealousy against
 the protector trade the protector
 130 for 179, and will be very heartily sorry, if 130 do get any advantage upon
 Spain Denmark the protector
 139 on that side. Now the heart of 142 towards 130 is likewise very well known
 to you.
 amity the protector the protector
 His 153 to 130 is but a pure dissimulation, and he doth fear as well 130 as
 Sweden the states of Holland
 141; but if he doth see, that he shall be able by and by with 105 to make any advantage
 the protector the Swede the protector
 against 130 or against 141, undoubtedly he will do it; and therefore 130
 Amsterdam
 ought to look narrowly to that; for assuredly 112 *aliquid monstri alunt*. How much
 the Dane Cromwell
 142 doth find himself offended, prejudiced, and disgusted with 130, is sufficiently
 seen by the continual complaints, which he doth cause to be made here, of the great damage,
 Cromwell Denmark
 which 130 hath done to the people of 142, and that he doth expect an opportunity to
 Amsterdam trade
 be revenged. And 112 doth so much covet the 171 and the profit, that they will make
 the protector
 very little conscience of abusing 130.
 alliance Brandenburg
 The 155 with 170 I do not value any thing, for he hath no ships (181) but
 the Dane Dane
 if 142 doth associate, it will be a business of importance, for the 142 hath
 181.

I remain your most humble servant.

July 30, 1655. [N. S.]

P. S.

You must likewise observe, that the states, as well the nobility as the cities of the
 Brandenburg
 country of Cleve and Mark, being not subjects of 170 than provisionally, through the
 induction

induction as well of the king of England and France, as of this state, and having A. D. 1655.
 made no oath, but a manual promise, however have been rudely handled by 170, and at
 present are handled in *virga ferrea*. The 104 have formerly protected these states. And
 states of Holland especially for this consideration have very much favoured those states,
 105 the states general
 for likewise the towns are in the hands and custody of 104; but by this treaty those states
 do find themselves altogether abandoned; and 104 will suffer those poor people to be
 Brandenburg
 fleeced, to the end that 170 may draw from them wherewithal to maintain some troops
 the states general
 to second the design of 105. You must however take notice, that the treaty of Xanten
 in the year 1614 (the foundation of all) was signed by Winwood and Dickenson, on the
 states of Holland
 behalf of the king of Great Britain. The 105 ought at least to communicate the
 the protector
 same to 130.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

SIR,

UPON the report that the lord Brederode was dead (there being very much likelihood Vol. xxviii.
 that he will die) there was presently a great discourse for his place. Those of P. 614.
 the states of Holland

105 alone it may be will be singular; but as for the rest, I cannot see but
 prince William Amsterdam
 that *manibus pedibusque* they will submit to 149. And since that 112 doth shew itself so
 Brandenburg grave William the prince of Orange
 complaisant to 170 (which with 149 and 148 is but *eadem persona*) I
 Brandenburg Amsterdam prince William
 believe, that 170 may dispose of 112; likewise some presume, that 149 will procure
 satisfaction for the lord Beverning, concerning the charge of treasurer; and that with that
 the states general prince William
 105 will be again for 149; likewise it is a charge, which is given
 prince William
 by plurality of voices. And by this means in effect 149 will be head, consequently master,
 of the militia, at least in campaign. And the most part of the militia is already openly
 the prince of Orange prince William the states general
 much more affected to 148 and 149 than to 105; yea,
 the states of Holland
 they would that all 105 were where they will be a hundred years hence.
 ambassador the states general England protector
 The 124 of 104 in 128 writes to have founded the 130 concern-
 Swede Cromwell the Swede alliance
 ing the 141; that 130 hath declared not to have with 141 other 155
 the states general
 than that which he had communicated to 104; declaring and promising likewise, that he
 the Swede
 will not do any thing with 141, nor with any body else, that may be to the prejudice of
 the states general Cromwell
 104. This advice they take very much to advantage, that 130 doth approve
 the states general the states general
 of all what 104 doth, without examining likewise whether all what 104 do be not to
 Cromwell the protector an alliance
 the prejudice of 130. Now I do not know whether 130 doth believe, that 155 between
 Poland Denmark the states general Brandenburg
 175, 142, 104, and 170 together, be to the advantage of
 Cromwell
 130. I am

Your most humble servant.

July 30, 1655. [N. S.]

A letter of intelligence from mr. le Maire.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
p. 634.

Nobilissime et admodum reverende domine, postquam ex literis affinis mei vestrae dominationis benévolum erga me animum intellexi, nolui ex mea parte aliquomodo deesse, sed statim arripui scribendi occasionem. Scies ergo, vir reverende, quod ordines Hollandiæ ordinario in loco per aliquot diés jam congregati fuerunt, et uti ex notulis illorum vidi, tantummodo occupati in componendis privatis negotiis, et specialiter nostris discordiis, quæ intra civitatem Dort et Rotterdam, aliisque Hollandiæ urbibus, magnopere ardent, et indies magis magisque crescunt.

Unicum tamen quod ex re vestra est decretum legi, nimirum, quod quatuor personæ Alemonde, Rodenburch, Omodz, et Oivgel, ab ordinibus nominatæ sunt, quæ cum vestra reipublicæ commissariis res litigiosas inter mercatores utriusque nationis examinarent, et secundum rectæ rationis normam determinarent.

Hac septimanâ domini ordines à legatis suis diversas acceperunt litteras, hæc sequentia continentes.

Ex Anglia scribit dominus Nieupoort, quod vestri mercatores ægre ferunt, quod dominus Blake cum classe suâ circa civitatem Cadiz sese detinet; nam idcirco ab Hispanis bonorum suorum confiscationem metuunt.

Quod aliqui vestrorum mercatorum, postquam dominus Blake Barbariæ oras reliquerat, cum incolis civitatis Tunis inducias pepigerunt, et pro vestrae nationis defensore suum consulem nominaverant aliquem Woodhouse.

Porro quod celsitudo sua multos captivos illa septimana dimiserat, et certo edicto sub gravi poenâ promulgaverat, quod omnes, qui præsens Angliæ regimen non amplecterentur, 20 milliaria extra Londinum ruri tenderent, ibique habitarent.

Ex Suecia scribitur, quod legati regis Poloniæ advenerant, et septimo hujus mensis die ad regem, ut eos audiret, et octavo ad reginam ducti erant; quod etiam singulis diebus, non sine spe boni successus, inter illos et regni Sueciæ cancellarium cum duobus senatoribus de pace ineundâ sedulo tractabatur. Dominus Boreel legatus ordinarius hujus statûs in Gallia hæc scribit; imprimis, quod Galli ob debellationem civitatis Landrecy magna hilaritate te Deum, &c. in suis ecclesiis cantaverunt, et quod Gallorum exercitus adhuc 1000 equites et 1600 pedites haberet. Quodque aliquis internuncius Sueciæ, qui in Gallia tum temporis advenerat, ipsi manifestavit, spem grandem esse, quod brevi tempore bona pax inter regem Poloniæ et Sueciæ contraheretur; quam ob causam Germaniæ imperator metuens, quod isto casu Sueciæ rex suas copias in illum converteret, reformatæ religionis Hungaris jus ob crudelem papistarum persecutionem res novas meditarentur, 60 ecclesias concessit, in quibus publice pacificeque religionem reformatam exercere possent. Quod Galli cum duce Mantuæ novum amicitiaë pactum, obnitente rege Hispaniæ, fecerunt, sub conditione, quod supradictus dux manebit absolutus dominus urbis Casal; sed quod Galli ibi tutissimum habebunt refugium, quodque præsidium istius civitatis nec ex Gallis aut Hispanis sed ex alio genere militibus debet constare, qui impofterum è Gallis, et non uti ante, ab Hispanis stipendium accipient.

Quod etiam supradictus Mantuæ dux in Galliam festinabat. Porro quod rumor erat regem Galliæ magna amore prosequi dominam Mancini cardinalis neptem, et de matrimonio cum illo contrahendo cogitare, quæ res nobilium animos magnopere turbat, et præcipuè ducis de Orleans, qui eam ob causam dissuasorias litteras regi scripserat, sed quod jam schemate politico ad tales rumores tollendos à cardinale et ipsius amicis dispersebatur, regem ad oppidum Lions iter suum destinasse, ut ibi matrimonium inter illum et principissam Savoiaë concluderetur.

Quod capitaneus vester Blake non solum maritimis oris urbis Cadiz cum suis navibus oberrat, sed quod etiam quatuor magnas naves ad Turcas aut Barbaros pertinentes intra suas receperat, cujus auxilio (uti scribit legatus) nostris navibus eo tendentibus, non obstante amicitiaë pacto, aliquid mali ab illis accedere posse; quocirca litteris suis ordines monet, ut sibi aliquo modo hac de causâ prospiciant. Hoc est, reverende vir, quod hoc tempore tibi significare possum. Vale.

Tuus devinctus,

Hagæ, Julii 30, 1655. [N. S.]

H. M.

Chanut, the French ambassador in Holland, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Hague, July 30, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 602.

IHAVE received the letter, which you were pleased to write to me of the 23d, which doth confirm that which M. Nieupoort had writ of the revocation of the letters of marque

marque given to private men against us. I cannot persuade my self, that that is done to gratify these provinces. My lord protector hath not shewn hitherto, that he will favour their commerce; but if he would have done it wholly in favour of them, he might only have given order to those private men of war, not to visit any Dutch ships, under pretence of finding the effects of Frenchmen. It may be I am deceived, if I do believe, that a revocation of these letters was only done to smooth us a little, to the end we should not be altogether impatient in these delays, which the protector doth prepare for us.

I have received a letter from Stockholm, from the earl of Lesno, the chieftest of the Polish embassy, wherein he complaineth very much of the durity of the king and the Swede, who have declared, that they would not admit of any mediators in the treaty, and *non pas mesme d'entremetteur, pour porter & rapporter les paroles*; from whence he gathers, that hardly the negotiation will succeed, at least, that it cannot be determined in Sweden, the king being ready to depart. The ambassadors were to follow. They write me from Hamburgh, that the king's baggage was already arrived at Vdegast, and that the marechal of Wittemberg was upon the march with 17,000 men, drawing towards Pomerania, on that side of Prussia and great Poland.

They have here concluded the treaty with Brandenburg. It is to be signed to-morrow. The ambassador of Spain here hath declared, that the English have been beaten in the West-Indies.

To Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Paris, July 30, 1655. [N. S.]

WE have here sung Te Deum for the taking of Landrecy, and for the conquests of Vol. xxviii. p. 610.
mr. the prince of Conti in Catalonia. He hath left that country, and is now at Pefenve; and he is shortly to come to Bourdeaux, to take possession of the government of Guienne. The court is at Vervins. The army is busied about La Capelle. The enemy is quite cast down, and they have put most of their army into garrisons, and the rest is past the rivers, Escot and Sambre, and do not appear any more in the field. Our army doth not intend to lie long before Capelle. Some say, it is already removed before Cambray. Certain it is, some further design is in hand, the forces being all joined. Prince Harcourt is come from Brisac, and hath brought with him a considerable recruit; he is marched therewith to join with the king's forces.

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, July 30, 1655. [N. S.]

ON saturday last here came advice from La Fere, that the voyage of the king for Vol. xxviii. p. 646.
Landrecy was deferr'd, and that his majesty was departed from La Fere for Guise, where a great council of war hath been held, where it was resolved to raise the siege of Capelle, which was only besieged by the marquis of Castlenau Mauviciere, the place being relieved by the prince of Condé, and well provided of all things; so that they resolved to enter into the enemies country, there to ransack and plunder the same, which is conceived will cause the people to rise and revolt from their lawful prince. On sunday, early in the morning, a certain priest, called mr. Mauray, was apprehended in his house, and sent prisoner to the Bastille, for having writ something against cardinal Retz, which displeaseth the court.

On wednesday last, monsieur Viole, brother to the lord president Viole, who is with the prince of Condé, was apprehended and sent to the Bastille, for holding with the interests of cardinal de Retz.

An intercepted letter from mr. Stephens to mrs. Weldon, at the three Pigeons in Hart-street.

Calais, July 28, 1655. [N. S.]

DEAR COUSIN,

I Received yours of the 15th, wherein methinks I find strange things suggested; and why Vol. xxviii. p. 568.
you should believe, I should return again to this place, I know not, nor why you should stay for a pass, unless you may not leave London without one, which I never knew
for

A. D. 1655. for any of your sex. I confes passes are demanded at embarking, but if you will take the advice I formerly prescribed you, there will be a passage found. Had I not received a countermand, you had not found me at your landing. Now if you can be at the water-side by friday in the afternoon, you shall not miss me here. What the old man means by saying, we may repent it, or how he comes to understand any thing of the matter, I admire. My most humble service to madam If. Keep the time limited, otherwise it may get further prejudice to me. To all our friends remember me. Settle what I desired in my last letters. For your comfort, I can tell you, that once within 4 months you may make her a visit, without much difficulty. I having no more to say, but let me have an answer to this. Madam,

Your affectionate cousin,

EDW. HARRINGTON.

An intercepted letter to mr. Thomas Brookes.

July 30, 1655. [N. S.]

WORTHY SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 626.

I HAVE not any news worth presenting, only the inclosed from remote friends makes me to scribble these unpolisht lines, not having time to be large as I desire. Our treasure is yet safe, and I hope will so continue, although through the malice of some, and too much desire of others, to possess it, there hath been too much notice taken of the value thereof, and how the price hath been augmented by your ingrossing it into your own hand. However it will be no detriment to you, all the hazard will be on my score, which I weigh not a straw; however let nothing trouble you, for all is well, and so I hope will continue. For news, the scout master general is going over into Switzerland, and there goes with him the widow's son, and if he can serve you, he prays you to command him. You will know where to find him, but he knows not where you reside. We all long exceedingly to hear a line from you; and often meet to chear up ourselves in our friends absence. Many friends wish themselves with you, for here things are very hard, and no likelihood of doing good in any trade.

Your cordial friend to serve you,

AMBROSE MACKERMAN.

From Nieuport, the Dutch ambassador in England.

MY LORD,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 642.

IN the beginning of last week I received for the first time, a visit from the lord Coyet, ambassador extraordinary of the king of Sweden: two days after I paid him my contra visit; we discoursed together of several affairs, and among other things his excellency told me, that he could not deny, but there was in Sweden some discontent against their high mightinesses about the treaty made with Denmark in the year 1649. touching the affair of the great John; but especially of late it was told, that their high mightinesses had taken the resolution to send some men of war into the Baltick, which, he told me, the king would not any ways permit. I gave him several reasons as to the two first affairs, and shewed him that their high mightinesses, in order to remove all animosity, had in both the said affairs condescended more to the crown of Sweden, than any sovereign and independent state had ever done; and concerning the last affair, I told him, that one ought not always to believe reports, that I, upon my faith, had heard nothing of it, and that I hoped, that the trade and navigation of the inhabitants of the United Provinces would be left undisturbed, and that then one ought not to fall out, touching the question of what he called *jus classis habende*. Yesterday I heard from a publick minister, that had been with the lord ambassador of France, that the lord Coyet had not yet been with him.

Yesterday I received also copy of their high mightinesses instruction and resolution of July 13, touching the deputation to Switzerland and Savoy. Mr. Morland the envoy of the lord protector has written word, that he was received at Turin with a great deal of civility, and feasted, but that he had as yet received no answer to the letter written by the lord protector to the duke. He is ordered to send the same as soon as delivered to him, and as to himself to continue there till further order. They take it well here, that their high mightinesses have appointed for the said deputation a lord of their own assembly. This night at eight o'clock the lord protector acquainted me by a lord of great distinction,

distinction, that he would send as envoy extraordinary or commissary to Switzerland one *A. D. 1655.*
 mr. Downing, and that mr. Pell, who is now at Zurich, shall be invested with the same
 character; that their instructions shall be, that they shall do on purpose nothing but
communicatis consiliis with the deputy of their high mightinesses, desiring the cantons, that
 they would likewise authorize a commissary, and thus jointly to bring about the restoration
 of the persecuted Waldenses, declaring, that the lord protector, observing the Christian zeal
 of their high mightinesses in the said affair, was thereby very much moved, seriously to
 exhort the said cantons, that they would co-operate therein likewise. The said lord told
 me at the same time, that even last night a letter was sent to mr. Morland to continue
 at Turin till the arrival of all the said deputies; and that the said mr. Morland had plainly
 shewn to the ministers of the duke of Savoy, that the said Waldenses had not exceeded
 the respective grants and permissions of the dukes.

Wherewith, &c.

Westminster, July 30,
 1655. [N. S.]

My lord, &c.

(Sign'd)

W. NIEUPORT.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England, to count Brienne.

MY LORD,

ABout the end of the last week, the lord protector gave me audience, wherein I imparted *Vol. xxviii.*
 to him the taking of Landrecy and Castillon, declaring to have a full belief, that he *p. 592.*
 would receive this news with the same sense as his majesty would have done, if he had
 heard the progress of the arms of England. My compliments were received with much
 civility, and nothing was forgot to persuade me, that the present interest of this govern-
 ment was, to see our enemies weakened; but happening to speak of the affairs of Savoy,
 which is their grand obstacle and pretence at present, after I had assured them, that the
 interposition of the king had disposed the lord duke to re-establish his subjects in the
 same places, and with the same liberty of conscience, which they enjoyed before their
 revolt; I rejected the overture, which was made me, to insert any clause in our treaty in fa-
 vour of the Vaudois: my reasons were not encountered nor opposed with any solid reason
 on their side, which do deserve the writing of them. The lord protector indeed did
 enlarge himself upon this subject; making a recapitulation of all that had been said in
 favour of the protestants, since the overture of my negotiation, to insinuate, that the
 zeal which he demonstrated now was not new, and that he had always reserved the liber-
 ty of interceding; wherein I did agree, but withal desired him to remember the decla-
 ration, which I had often made not to proceed in the treaty, if he intended any thing
 further to do for them, and desired him not to insist any longer upon a business, which is
 neither honest, nor of a good example, nor necessary, and, in short, to which the amity
 or enmity of England was not capable to make his majesty condescend unto. All produced
 only general assurances of a disposition to an accommodation, which however is no further
 advanced than in my last; and I do not see that they have lost the thoughts here of fo-
 menting the disorders of the Vallies. Without doubt they are assured, that they are not
 to agree with their prince, but with the good liking of all the protestant states, who
 have taken their interest. And the news, that came by the last post, of the good reception,
 which the duke of Savoy hath made to the envoy of the protector, doth not hinder the
 officer designed for Switzerland from preparing to depart very suddenly.

The revocation of the private letters of marque was publish'd here three days since.
 If all acts of hostility had been suspended by the protector, he would have done some-
 thing worthy of merit. It is very likely, that in regard the states general have appeared
 to be sensible of the pretended sufferings of those of the Vallies, to the end that their sub-
 jects might not suffer through the delays of the treaty, they have prevailed to have the
 private letters of marque recalled.

The ambassador of Sweden arrived yesterday at Gravesend.
 No certain news yet of the fleets.

July 30, 1655. [N. S.]

STATE PAPERS OF

Caillet, *the prince of Condé's secretary, to Barriere.*

From the camp at Noyelle near Bouchain.

July 30, 1655. [N. S.]

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
p. 630.

SINCE the taking of Landrecy, mr. de Turenne and mr. de la Ferte came to Marole, and caused la Capelle to be besieged by mr. de Castelnau, whilst they in the mean time lay at the said place with their whole army to protect him, in case we should go about to relieve the town, or to follow us, if we should make any diversion. Notwithstanding all their precautions, mr. de Bouteville, who was at Avesnes with a flying camp, took his time, and conveyed 300 horse of the troops of his highness into the place, who in their passage routed the regiments of the queen, and that of Montcaurel, which caused Turenne and La Ferte to march back with all their forces, in regard that mr. de Castelnau could not take that place with those forces he had under his command; whereupon having advice of the enemies march, we followed them, and upon our arrival, we heard they had raised the siege, and were march'd towards Guise, upon the way to Cambray; and in regard we were afraid they might make some attempt upon that place, we are come to this post, where we may the better observe the design of our enemy, and relieve Cambray, if need be. We have already strengthened that place with 2000 horse.

Major general Fortescue to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONNOURABLE,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 556.

Albeit by former dispatches I gave you the trouble of an account of all transactions, I shall forbear to take the liberty at present, in regard the generalls, coll. Buller, &c. will waite on you, who are able to satisfie you in all particulars. Our condition and desire will be humbly represented by the generall and coll. Buller; and therefore I shall not mention any more then informe you, that the commissioners are all gone, without nominating and appointing a commander in chiefe of the land forces. Generall Venables in his weaknes apprehending himself disabled for further actinge, and to be at the point of death, opened his highnes instructions, and accordinge to the contents, the rest of the commissioners beinge absent, captain Butler not comeinge, though sent for two days before, to have joyned with the generall in it) the generall, in presence of severall officers, nominated and appointed a commander in chief of the land forces, and the next day capt. Butler coming to the head quarters, the generall acquainted him with what he had done, desiring his concurrence. Captain Butler desired tyme to consider, and accordingly took tyme, and his highnes instructions to communicate to generall Pen, yet hath given noe resolution to this day, but hath embarqued himself for England, alleadinge there was no more service for him to doe, in regard the rest of the commissioners were gone. I told him, by his highnes commission and instructions, the two commanders in chiefe of sea and land forces for the tyme being, were impowered to act as commissioners till further order, not onely in case of the death but absence or disability of the respective generalls; but nothing would prevail, but go he would. I confes I did not desier his stay out of an opinion of any service he could do, but to make up the number of 3, for he may well be spared, much of his busines having been to engender strife, and create factions amongst the officers. How desirable such a man is, you may easily judge. I hope, if his highnes please to send more commissioners, that he will appoint sober, discrete and serviceable men, that may see manage his highnes affaires, as (through God's blessing) he may receive a good account from hence. Sir, I am onely forrie, that we landed on Hispaniola, in regard of the losse and disgrace we received there. It doth not repent me, that we fate not down there, beinge confident we could not have subsisted there, and that this island is to all intents and purposes more advantageous then that. Not a ship can stir for Carthagene or Cuba, but must come in view of this island. I speak my apprehension and judgment candidly. Sir, I formerly tooke the boldnes to intreate you to minde his highnes to put an end to the sute between my lord St. John and my self, and to order my arrears, viz. 2674 l. 9 s. which have been longe due, stated, and ordered to be paid, to be paid to my wife in money. His highnes was pleased to promise, both should be done. Please you to move him on my behaulf. This is all I desire concerning my own particular. I doubt not of his highnes care for the army; the welfare and well-being of it, in order to his highnes service is very much desired, and shall be accordingly endeavoured, as much as lyeth in the power of

Your honor's most humble servant,

Jamaica, July 20, 1655.

RICHARD FORTESCUE.
Col.

Col. Fortescue to the protector.

MAIE IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

I SHALL not presume to give your highnes the trouble of a narrative of our transactions, some of our principall officers beinge returned to give your highnes an account of proceedings: I shall onely take the boldnes to give your highnes an account of the present state of affaires: general Venables ymediate lie before general Pen's departure, findinge himself by extreame weaknes disabled for action, apprehendinge himself at point of death (unwillinge to leave us as sheepe without a sheppard) sent an expresse for captain Butler, who was then aboard (as hee was for the most part) desiringe he would hasten to the land quarters about speciall busines, which concern'd the army; but the commissioners not coming in two days, the general (apprehendinge himself declyninge) called for your highnes instructions, sealed and superscribed not to be opened, but in case of death, absence, or disabillity of one of the generals, caused the said instructions to be opened and reade (by mr. Long secretary to the commissioners) and afterwards in presence of severall officers declared and appointed a commander in chief of the army. That day commissioner Buller cominge to him, he declared to him what he had done in pursuance of your highnes instructions, and desired his concurrence, the commissioner demurr'd, desiringe tyme to consider of it, and to communicate the said instructions to general Pen, which hee did, yet to this day hath given noe resolution concerning that matter, but hath embark'd himself for England, soe as all the commissioners are gone without leavinge any order or direction then is before exprest for government of the army.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
p. 678.

Nevertheles I am resolved (with Gode's help) their neglect shall not hinder your highnes service (as much as in mee lies) but I shall accordinge to your generals appointment (though a single commissioner, and the duty of my place in the general's absence, order and manage things to the best advantage; and the advancement of your highnes service, as God shall direct and assist, till your highnes pleasure be further signified.

Much encouragement it would have beene to mee, if the commissioners had beene pleased to have delegated such power to mee as they were directed. I hope your highnes will not bee displeased with what I have done or shall doe in order to your highnes service, though somewhat extrajudicially (the exigency of things, *rebus sic stantibus*, requiringe it). I have greate cause to bles God for the large interest I have in the affections of the army, without which I should have no desyre of governinge such a body, being left in such disadvantages; but I hope through God, by advantage of the interest, to give your highnes a good account of the affaire. The commissioners have not left us 700 l. in the treasury, and yet the officers (and none of the army but the officers) have received above 12 daies pay, which was at Barbados, (the better to enable them to pay their quarters) since we came from England: besides, we have little bread, nor more than the fleete please to afford us, which is but a very small proportion, they alleadginge all the bread was consigned to them. Moreover we have no salt in the fleete for the army, for want whereof we suffer much; neither have we had any from them, I know not whether any was ordered for us: I have done and shall doe what I can to lengthen out our provisions, and hope God will send seasonable supplies. Henceforth I humbly desire your highnes, that such bread, provision, and stores, as shall be ordered for the army, may be consigned to our immediate officers. May it please your highnes, the field officers of the army havinge taken the boldnes, humbly to represent their desires by the hands of general Venable and collonel Buller to your highnes consideration, I shall not trouble your highnes with further enlargment concerninge the armye, onely humbly begg leave, that I may without offence represent the condition of my owne affairs in England to your highnes. I have heard by letter from my wife since I arived here, the lord St. John (marquis of) contynues to vex and trouble her about woods bought of the trustees at Drury-house, as they formerly certified your highnes, the news whereof doth much afflict mee, that I should be dampnified in my small affairs soe undeservedly, whilst I am attendinge the publike service. I beseech your highnes please to take a speedy and effectuall order therein, that my wife may have noe more disturbance. Your highnes may please to remember the desision of the courte, and likewise the things I promised when your highnes sent for mee. At my coming from England, collonel Cooke (who hath great interest in my adversary) promised to put an end to the suit, is of greate consideration to mee both in respect of my estate, as also the peace and quiet of my wife and relations, that that busines be settled; and that your highnes will likewise please to order my arrears (which are in bonds left in my wife's hands) may be paid to her in money (whereby shee may bee enabled to pay those debts I contracted by my losse for the parliament, and want of my arrears) I confesse it saddens my spirit, that I did not, could not, pay my debts before I left the land, thereby exposinge myself to reproach, a thing grievous to me; but my

A. D. 1655. my hope and humble suit is, that your highnes will grant my request also in this particular, the tideings whereof would be a great contentment to me: your highnes and the state never had any served you more truly, more faithfully: I hope your highnes will judge mee as worthy and capable as others, who have long since received satisfaction. Now begginge your highnes pardon for assuminge this boldness to give so much trouble, I humbly take leave to subscribe myself,

Jamaica, July 21, 1655.

Your highnes most humble

and faithful servant,,

RICHARD FORTESCUE.

I wish your army were as honest as poor. I am confident there is not an officer in the army hath above 40 shillings, hundreds not five shillings in their purse.

An intercepted letter.

SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
P. 554.

I HAVE writt severall letters to you, giving you an account of your affaires in my charge, and alsoe that I sent the commodities you writt for to Rotterdam, assigned as you directed; since which I heard from a friend of yours, that went with them, mr. Mar. that they are safe arrived there; but he intimates, that you are removed, and is therefore doubtfull how to dispose of them. The newes of your remove I alsoe heard here, and that you intended to come over hither shortly. The alarum whereof is a greate prejudice to my indeavours in your busines with your creditors, for the chiefe of them, I can assure you, hath notice you are cominge over, and thereupon he and the rest fall off from any termes of agreement; and I was yesterday sent to, from a true friend of yours, to informe, that he had laid waite to arrest you, wherever you landed, knowing certainly of your coming, and the busines that brings you over. I was in hopes to have made some good end for you, but this spoyles all, they being confident, if they take you, to have their whole debts. Therefore if this come to you time enough, lett itt forwarne you of your owne ruine, and forbare coming, for, beleive mee, nothing can more prejudice your busines, then your coming over; neither can you add any thing to the advantage of itt. I had rather meete you, if occasion were, to give you an account what is to be done, then you to come; but till they be againe satisfied, that it is not soe, itt is to noe purpose, for that till then I can doe nothing. Therefore pray forbare, if you tender your owne good. I shall goe out of towne within a month, and not returne againe till after Michaelmas. I have noe newes to write, but what I am confident you know, that all the cavilere partie thorowout England of any note are still prisoners, and like to be, and the rest by proclamation all banished London; which will hinder them of such wicked plotts, as they dayly contrive, and I hope add to the intended settlement of this nation in peace. I have noe more at present, but that I am

July 20, 1655.

Your assured freind,

JOHN SANDERS.

The superscription,

*A mounseur mounseur Jaques le Grand,
mercant au Cullen. Cullen.*

The examination of Francis Pickering.

July 20, 1655.

Francis Pickering examined, faith,

Vol. xxviii.
P. 549.

THAT mr. John Floyd of Flintshire did, about May was a twelve-month, declare to him, that there would be a general riseing, and that he the said Floyd should have a comission to be a captain of horse, and that the commissions were to be delivered at the rendezvous. That in June following one William Eaton of Orton in Flintshire, gentleman, and comrade to sir Thomas Harris, living with him, told him the same, and did earnestly endeavour to engage him to serve under sir Thomas Harris, who, he said, would raise one hundred horse, and that we should never want gold, &c. but he the said Pickering did deny him, having before engaged to Floyd.—About the 3d of March following, one Lingley, a hat-maker in Chester, who lives in Chester, and keeps shop with his father there, came to him, to Holt in Denbyshire, and told him, he must

must come to Chester to col. Worthing, which accordingly he did, and there met with A. D. 1655. col. Worthing, at the house of widow Alice Throp, with whom were then present, mr. Richard Ravenscroft, who now lives with his brother col. Ravenscroft, at Brettan in Flintshire, and mr. William Cowley, who lives at Dodleston in Cheshire, within four miles of Chester, having an estate of about 100 l. per ann. In the presence of those two col. Worthing asked the examinee, whether he had not heard of a rising intended; to which the examinee replied, Yea. And then he bid him make ready, for the time of the rising drew very nigh. And that he asked him, what friends he durst undertake to bring in. To which the examinee answered, that he would be ready with himself and his man well armed, and that he did believe, divers others would rise, if occasion; but for them he would not promise. And so the examinee returned to Holt that night, and came again the next day to Chester, and there, at the same house, met again with col. Worthing, and the other two gentlemen. And then col. Worthing drew a letter out of his pocket, with no name to it, but col. Worthing did tell him the name, and he thinks if he heard the name again, that he should call it to mind. Col. Worthing read the letter to him, the substance whereof was, that the trial between the two great men would be on the 8th of this instant March, and that they must be sure peremptorily to get all the witnesses ready by that day. And Ravenscroft did tell the examinee, that colonel John Booth had sat in council with colonel Worthing, about carrying on the rising, that day or the day before; and after the reading of the letter, mr. Worthing gave it to the examinee, and bad him burn it; which accordingly he did. After the burning of the letter, the examinee asked col. Worthing what the design was; to which the col. answered, that the rising was general; but that his part was principally to surprize the castle of Chester, in which he desired the examinee to be assistant, and accordingly that night 3 or 4 were sent by col. Worthing to seize the castle; they were all inhabitants in Chester, and the examinee knows them all by sight; one of them is called Alexander, who lives in Chester, and is commonly known by the name of Alexander the tobacco-pipe-maker in Chester; he knows not the name of any of the rest. These persons brought back word to col. Worthing, that at the place, where they intended to raise a ladder, to surprize the castle, they heard a centinel walk and cough; at which report col. Worthing was very much startled, and sent them back again to seize any other convenient place; and they brought word still, that they heard centinels walking. Then this examinee falling into further discourse, captain Worthing told him, that if their work succeeded well at Chester, that the gentlemen on the other side of the country would bring away col. Croxon, and some others, to the rendezvous. The next day the said col. sent to this examinee, to let him know, that he was much troubled, for that he could not contrive how to take the said castle, and therefore that he should secure him, and keep as private as he could, and desire his friends to do so too, and to expect further orders from him; which accordingly he did, and on the 8th day (the rising being to have been the night following) the examinee's arms, being two cases of pistols and his saddle, were seized by the mayor of Holt; whereupon the examinee fled into Yorkshire, hearing they were up there in arms.

The examinee faith, that Floyd told him, that capt. Edward Morgan of Woolgrove in Flintshire (who was formerly a captain of horse for the king, and a very ancient man) was engaged in this design (and Samuel Peirson faith, that he remembers well that the said Morgan went out of London (about a week before the time of the rising.) Further Floyd told the examinee, that he had bought many pistols and much powder in London, for the carrying on the design. And seeing him on the 7th of the said March, the examinee told Floyd, that he had engaged himself to col. Worthing, and therefore he desired, that he would excuse him.

The examinee asked Ravenscroft what they intended to do with Chirk-Castle (being the place of Sir Thomas Middleton's abode) there being there, as the examinee told him, good store of money, horses and arms; to which Ravenscroft answered, that he would ask col. Worthing; and the next day Ravenscroft told him, that they would not meddle with it, for that mr. Thomas Middleton (sir Thomas his eldest son) was a friend, and would shew himself so, if their business did stand for a while. About 10 days ago the examinee went to the chamber of mr. Thomas Grosvenor, second son to sir Richard Grosvenor of Cheshire, and told him, that he was forced to fly from home, having had a hand in the late plott, and asked him, where col. Worthing was; to which he answered, that he lay in the Strand. And then the examinee desired him, that he would let col. Worthing know, that he was extreme poor, and therefore that he would make a collection for him; and that upon this day was a seven-night, mr. Thomas Grosvenor came to a cook's shop, which the examinee frequented, and calling him out to him, told him, that col. Worthing said, that his friends had failed him, but however that he had sent a twenty shillings piece in gold.

Vol. xxix.
p. 302.

A. D. 1655. Further the examine faith, that one Elias Preston, a Barber-surgeon in Wrexham, now prisoner in Shrewsbury, did all along correspond with the examine and sir Thomas Harris, and the said Eaton, about the carrying on of the plot. And the said Preston did tell the examine, that they should be 600 good horse in Shropshire, besides foot; and they should without trouble surprize Shrewsbury-castle; and that the said Preston was to be surgeon to that party. He faith further, that the said Preston did divers times go from his house at Wrexham to sir Thomas Harris's house, to meet sir Thomas; and that the said Eaton would fain have had the examine have gone into Shropshire with him, but he refused, desiring to serve near his own country. The examine further faith, that he and the said Preston are very intimate friends, and that he believes he could make Preston confess all to him, if he could see him, and so that the said Preston might not know that the examine hath been with your highness. He faith, that Preston did at several times tell him the names of many Shropshire gentlemen, but that he remembers them not, they being strangers to him. He faith further, that one lieutenant Christopher Sydney is a most intimate confident of captain Morgan's, who is prisoner at Shrewsbury on suspicion; which Sydney and Kitt Edmonds, a Dutchman, are prisoners in Shrewsbury, the said Edmonds being also an intimate of captain Morgan's, and can discover concerning him and others.

FRANCIS PICKERINGE.

Signed by FRANCIS PICKERINGE,
in the presence of G. DOWNING,
SAM. PEIRSON.

P. Pels, the Dutch resident at Dantzick, to the states general.

Dantzick, July 31, 1655. [N. S.]

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 658.

MY lords, the return of the Poland embassadorst out of Sweden I advised in my last: since they went from hence for Marienbergh, to make report thereof to the king to receive further resolution against the 4th of August 1655, at which time they were to be at Stetin, to finish the treaty.

Now here arrived unexpected news this night, that the Polish army, which was appointed for the defence of great Poland, being 4000 men, had yielded themselves willingly to the protection of the Swedes, under general Wittenbergh: this doth cause great perplexity here. General Wittenbergh is said to march higher into Poland, where he will meet with no resistance, the kingdom being too much occupied already with an inland war against the Cossacks and the Muscovites, and the king not well united with the states of Poland, whom he doth mistrust.

The city is very much troubled, notwithstanding all their preparations for its defence and resistance.

President Viole to Barriere.

Brussels, July 31, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxviii.
p. 662.

I HAVE received your letter of the 23d of this month, wherein you do declare your sorrow for our disasters and misfortunes; you have reason, for it will be of very great prejudice unto us. Since that the enemy laid siege to Capelle, but have now raised their siege, as thinking that place not worthy to retain them, having some greater design in hand, either upon Bouchain or Cambray, as it is thought; their army is now at Guise, and ours near Bouchain. The enemy is in a condition to go whither they please, and we must stand only upon the defence, which we are sufficient for; and I durst assure you, that they will not be able to make any further progress this summer. His highness hath sent for me, and I am just now going to him. A trooper, who was formerly of the life guards of his highness, came to him about a week since, and proposed to him, that he had a design to kill the king, the archduke, and the earl of Fuenfaldagna: his highness caused him to be apprehended, and put into the hands of the provost of the Spaniards, who condemned him to be hanged, and he hath been since executed. By killing of those (he said) he would do his highness business.

A letter

A letter of intelligence.

Paris, July 31, 1655. [N. S.]

WE say here, that the signing and concluding of the peace between England and France sticks now in the French part: they have had so great success against Spain this year in all places, in Catalonia, near Milan, and towards Flanders, as they are grown very high, and now they seem to expect better terms from your lord protector than formerly they would have accepted. They would have sent the duke of York out of France, if the peace had been concluded, and to that purpose he was not suffered to go to the army this spring; but now they not only suffered him (three weeks ago) to go to the camp, but in his way as he passed by la Fere, where the king and cardinal were, the cardinal caused all the great arms to be shot off, as if it were to let the protector know, that their minds were altered. On the other side Spain is so low, that if he be not assisted, he will be in danger to lose all he hath in the Low Countries.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
p. 666.

A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.

Paris, July 31, 1655.

MY last will have informed you of prince Thomas's entrance into the Milanese, whereat the marquis of Caracena is so much the more surpris'd, by reason the inhabitants of Milan and all the country complain, that he has received great sums of money for them, which he sent to Spain instead of employing them to their protection. It is written from Turin, that to appease them the said marquis had converted his plate into coin, and had engaged many jewels to get wherewithal to raise some levies. That he had 7000 men in a body; that all the places were reasonably well provided, out of which he hoped to draw a great many people unto him, when our army should be about some enterprize: but that our men did nevertheless promise themselves great progresses as soon as they have joined the duke of Modena's army, who did himself lead it unto them through Parmesan. That in the interim our men foreseeing the said marquis's design, had sent the count of Quincé and marquis Ville with an army of light horse, to keep towards Cressentin, and oblige the Spaniards to keep good garrison in Versailles, Trin, and Alexandria, and hinder the governor of Milan to make any enterprize, whilst prince Thomas doth execute his, which will doubtless shortly issue forth.

The enemies affairs are not in a better posture in Flanders. The king and his eminency have held a great council at Guise with our generals, who did soon after return to the army, which is of some 25 or 30,000 men; and I am told, that for certain his majesty will put himself at their head to act personally in this occasion, in which Flanders will doubtless receive a hot bout, our soldiers having all received the encouragement of a muster. It is written, that the enemies are making the process of the governor of Landrecy, by reason he has not well defended that place; and that they had already put to death two officers, which commanded the Irish.

I hear this court has sent to propound unto the duke of Orleans the marriages of his majesty and his brother with his highness's two second daughters; as also that of his eldest daughter with the duke of Savoy, and that of the duke of Enguien with one of cardinal Mazarin's nieces, whereupon the prince of Condé's agreement is grounded.

The duke of Mantua is expected at Paris next week or the next after. The prince's Palatin goeth to meet him, and his majesty has written unto all the governors, by whose government he is to pass, to receive him with the respect due to his birth.

The prince's of Conti hath sent the marquis of Villars and mons. Monceaux to Modena, to compliment that duke upon his wedding.

You will have been informed of the generous defence of those of the religion at Piedmont in the new assault given them, that hath given some apprehension unto the court of Savoy, which caused the militia to be raised to oppose them, and sends the count Biglione to Vienna, to give an account of his war, hoping that the emperor will take the business into consideration, and will hinder the effect of the intelligence the said protestants have with those of Germany; which count parted from Turin the 1st instant, by letters written from the said Turin in date of the 1st instant.

You may see by the Gazette the pope's resolution to receive the Portugal ambassador, and provide unto the churches of that kingdom; and besides what has been past in the homage rendered unto the pope by the Spanish ambassador for the kingdom of Naples, according unto the custom, which is to present him with a white gelding, and a cedula of 7000 ducats in gold.

Bordeaux, *the French ambassador in England, to Avaugour, the French ambassador in Sweden.*

London, July 31, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
p. 670.

I Believe that in effect there is no more cause to be surprized at the success, which my negotiation will have, after so many various complexions, which it hath had for almost these six years, and under pretences so little coloured. That which my former letters spoke of doth not yet cease, and the patience of the king is not yet at an end; wherefore I cannot write any thing new to you. This court is barren of news. The protector hath not yet declared his intentions upon the imprisoning of the nobility, and the sending away of the rest 20 miles from this place. And men do likewise wait with impatience, what the assembly will produce, which is to be held to consider of the means to establish the government. No certainty yet of the landing of general Penn's fleet, nor of the disgrace, which is said to be happened unto him. And admiral Blake is still before Cadiz. This government doth still declare great zeal for the Vaudois, but the people did not answer their charities, which are found to be much less than was expected. They are sending an envoy towards Switzerland, to help to accommodate the breach, but if monsieur Servien be not deceived in his conjectures, may lose his labour; for that business will be finished before he can get thither. Here hath been a proclamation made within these three days, for the calling in of all private letters of marque against the French. This order doth rather declare a complacency for the lords states general, whose subjects were disturbed by them in their trade, than a desire to establish a good correspondence between England and France, in regard the ships of this state do still continue to take our ships.

The Swedish ambassador is arrived near this city. He hath not yet sent to give me notice of it; but I make no doubt, he will send me word, when he is to make his entrance. I hope that by what you write from your parts, peace may take place before ambition. If the king of Sweden take that course, he will free a great many states of their jealousies.

Bordeaux, *the French ambassador in England, to monsieur de Lionne, the French ambassador at Rome.*

London, July 31, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 650.

YOU may signify unto his holiness amongst the rest, that the ambassadors of Spain, upon the subject of that which had happened to those of the Vallies, did endeavour all that they could to stir up the preaching ministers of England to incense the government and people here against the catholicks; yea they did propose to some to go for the said Vallies, there to distribute some money to those amongst the inhabitants, who should be able to persuade the rest to take up arms, to the end they may form a war for religion sake. This project is politick enough, but it doth hardly agree with the zeal which that crown doth affect.

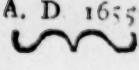
[The rest of the letter was the same in substance with that to M. d'Avaugour.]

From mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg.

Illustres excellentissimi prænobiles magnifici amplissimi viri,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 328.

EX literis excellent. vestrar. 11 Junii Stadæ datis percepi, navarchum quendam Anglicæ gentis (cui Johannes Abbot nomen) non solum portorium regiæ majestati Suecicæ ratione jurisdictionis debitum pro lubitu solvendo per suppressionem mercium fraudem fucumque fecisse, sed etiam locumtenentem regiæ navis bellicæ durius ac inhumanius ac debuit excepiisse; quin etiam loco submissionis velorum, hoc est, debiti regiæ majestati honoris, tormentorum explosionem minatum fuisse. Quamobrem debuisse excellentias vestras me hâc in readmonendo officium præstitisse; nec dubitare, quin præfatum navarchum ad debitam satisfactionem compulsum sim, cæterosque Anglos idem aggressuros iter ad justam observantiam prædictorum regalium admoniturus. Percepi, inquam, & excellentiarum vestrarum admonitioni satisfactorius, ostensurusque quantopere mihi offensus talis displiceat,

displacet, examen instituere quidem decrevi; discessisse tamen cum navi sua præfatum A. D. 1655. 
 navarchum comperi invitus. Interea etiam hoc ex relatione non nullorum mercatorum
 nostratum audiui, non denegasse debitum vectigal nostratem navarchum, sed locitenen-
 tem regiae navis novum ac inusitatum, quod præter consuetudinem per viam ac modum
 perlustrandæ navis (vulgo visitationem vocant) quod antehac nunquam factum, exigere
 voluisse. Quod si ita se res habet, excusandum aliquo modo navarchum existimo. In-
 terea autem quoniam cum nauta absente examen instituere non possim, si ita excellentiis
 vestris placuerit, serenissimo domino protectori rem aperiam lubens; nec dubito, quin hoc
 in negotio regiae majestati Suecicæ vel defendendo infontem vel noxium severe plectendo
 sit satisfactorius. Quibus excellentias vestras tutelæ divinæ commendo.

Dabam Hamb. July 22, 1655.

Excellentiarum vestrarum officiosissimus,

R. B.

Col. Fortescue to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

A Lbeit, by other letters I certefied your highnes, what I had said to com. Butler, yet Vol. xxviii.
 that not beinge satisfaction to me, because what past was betweene him and mee, I p. 680.
 tooke occasion this morninge, in prefence of admirall Goodson, col. Buller, and this gent.
 reare admirall Blagge, to tell the com. that I thought, according to the duty of his
 place, he ought to tarry with us, and therefore protested against his goeing, in regard
 your highnes service would in all probabillity receive damage by it; for that the two
 commanders in cheif of fleet and land forces, impowered by your highnes instructions
 to act as commissioners, could not in some cases act without a 3d person. I also desired
 his concurrence with the gen. in nominateinge and appointinge a commander in cheif
 of the army in the generall's absence; but he utterly refused, sayinge, the state of things
 was now much altered, and he could not, nor would not allow of adm. Goodson or
 myself to be commissioners, nor consent, that I should be commander in cheif in the
 generall's absence, nor appoint any other, nor stay to order and govern things with the
 other commissioners, all which reare admirall Blagge can justifie, and I count it a duty to
 be certified to your highnes by

Your highnes most humble servant,

Jamico, July 23, 1655.

RICH. FORTESCUE.

Declaration of the officers of the army in America.

FOrasmuch as we conceive the propagation of the gospel was the thing principally Vol. xxviii.
 aimed at and intended in this expedition, I humbly desired, that his highnes will p. 684.
 please to take order, that some godly, sober, and learned minister may be sent unto us,
 which may be intrumental in planting and propagating of the gospel, and able to confute
 and stop the mouth of every cavilling adversary and gainfayer; and the rather for that
 two of the ministers of the army are already dead, and a third lieth at the point of
 death.

And for that many officers are imployed as commissaries and otherwise, who are
 intrusted with the stores for the army, and many officers of the army have died, and
 we have none impowered by the establishment as auditors to take and state the
 accompts of one or the other, by means whereof much of our store may be imbezzled,
 and many officers and soldiers suffer: it's humbly desired, his highnes will please to
 establish an auditor for the purposes aforesaid, and, if his highnes please, that mr. Jo.
 Daniell, who is a very good accomptant, and hath been serviceable to the army in ex-
 amining accompts, and otherwise, and was lately deputed by two of the commissioners
 for the office, may be confirmed by his highnes.

Jamaica, July 23, 1655.

Signed in the name and on behalf
 of the officers of the army in
 America.

RICH. FORTESCUE.

Vice-admiral Goodsonn to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
P. 702.

MY instructions from general Penn doe thus imboulden mee. Generall Penn departed this port the 25th of the last, leaveing under my conduct twelve shipes, six of which att that time abroad, too being left to ply off St. Domingo, to give advice to all shiping bound to the fleet, the Selby being one, tooke a small vessell coming from Coro to Domingo, in the which hee made a hole and sunck her; for which with other misdeameanours is casheired of the fleet, and sent home to give a further account to the admiralty, three shipes at Cazamanos to have seized upon some Friench, who per advice was there, but missed them, soe with a small quantity of salt they had salted some turtell and returned. One shipe on the north side of the island to have intercepted betwixt Cuba and that place any correspondence, which the inhabitation of this island might have, who are fled most part one that side. The diurnalls, of all which shipes, in the best forme could gett them, have sent to the commissioners of the admiralty, as also the account of store of provisions present, what men dead since general Penn's departure in the respective shipes, with all other occurrences. The desire of generall Penn, before his departure, and the direction of generall Venables and esq; Butler, commissioner, whose directions as to the 12th article of my instructions from generall Pen, am to follow, have sent home the Marstonmore, and in company the Augustine a victuallar. In three daies I intend, God willing, with eight shipes to go over and lie some time before Carthageene and Porto Bello, leaveing only too shipes to keepe the port, and one I hope to goe on the north side of the island, for our men conteneue still verry sickly; as yett, noe fort built to secure the port. Thus wayting for your highnesse pleashure of sending a more fett and abler person for the management of your highnesse waighty afaiers in these parts, remaine

Your highnesse humble and faithfull servant,

Torrington, Jamaica,
July 23, 1655.

WILLIAM GOODSONN.

J. Griffiths to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
P. 722.

ALthough I was absent at the tyme of the coming of your messenger, yett haveing speedy notice thereof, I made all possible haste to observe your directions, and in order thereunto Alexander Langton, the tobacco-pipe-maker, and John Lyngley, are both secured in the castle, but will not upon any tearmes be induced to confesse any thing at all, although urged by as many interrogatories and pressing arguments as possibly I could use. It's true, they are as suspicious persons, as are in or neere the cytty, inso-much as upon my owne accord I apprehended Alexander at the very tyme of the plott, and that upon very greate cause of jealousy; but through their subtilty and reservedness could not then cleere out things, according to expectation, but found him familiar and conversant with one Mathew Cowes, who had bought up many musketts, pistolls, and other armes (which I then seized and brought up to the towne-hall) and as it then appeared furnished, this same mr. Ravenscroft, about 20 days before the breaking out of the said plott, with a case of pistolls, which mr. Ravenscroft you may confydently expect by the next to be secured also; but mr. Cowley is not at this present in Cheshire, but as I am informed is in Worcestershire, at some kinsman's house there. I am just now informed, that mr. Humphrey Gething of Egleswaughen, and mr. Thomas Holland of Tritden, and some others in the county of Denbigh, are yet so high in their expressions and actions, that frequently at their meetings they drinke their pretended king's health, at which they burn thire hatts, and some other of thire garments, and have offered violence unto and abused several persons, that have refused the same, and still continue thire practice, and threatening the well-affected with a change of government, &c. Herewith I judged it my duty to acquaint you, and to assure you, that according to my utmost abilityes, I shall be ready and carefull in this or any other service cheerfully to observe your commands, whilst,

Sir, your honour's most humble servant,

Chester, July 24, 1655.

JO. GRIFFITHS.

Coll. Wordame is upon his way, if not come before this.

A letter

*A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.*Paris, July $\frac{1}{4}$ 1655. [N. S.]

THE king parted from Guise the 31st past to go to Marolles, which is a league from Landrecy, where great store of meal has been carried to make a magazine. The army discamped the same day to go to the said Marolles, where his majesty will see it in battle. It is composed of 36 battalions of foot, and of 135 squadrons of horse. The king is to put himself at the head thereof, and enter into the enemies country. We shall see if the Spaniards, which are a long p^{er}escault, will defend the passage thereof. The diet of Hungary is ended to the satisfaction of the catholicks and protestants, and the emperor is returned to Vienna, still mistrusting the Swedish designs. Their agreement with Poland is much hoped. Prince Rupert has sent to Italy the troops he had raised for the duke of Modena, he himself is going to serve the king of Sweden. It is said he intended to be lieutenant general of duke of Modena, but France desired it might be count Broglio, which hath obliged that prince to seek some employment elsewhere. The duke of Mantua is expected here to night or to morrow, he is to lodge at the palace of Longueville, and after some refreshment go to court.

It is written from Marseilles the $\frac{27}{7}$ July, that our five gallies were for certain perished, and all the men therein lost.

That the king of la Ferriere who is also perished therein, is accused to have made them go out of Toulon without order, and that the confiscation of his means had been propounded.

We hear my lord protector's envoy is gone from Turin for his return homeward, and that the poor persecuted of those Vallies are retired in little number upon their mountains. That they have daily new assaults to sustain. That the troops of Savoy do spoil all their fruits of the field; and that they begin to find themselves destitute of provisions of war, and of many others.

From col. Modyford at Barbados.

July 25, 1655.

DEARE BROTHER,

THE above is a copy of what I writt you under my cousen Colleton's cover, directed to mr. Williamfon. and carryed by Paspheild; since which this new assembly have had two meetings, and the last time highly feasted by our governor. They have done nothinge but two things, the first is to oppose the levies of horse forces appointed by generall Venables, for defence of the island: the second to prepare a petition and instructions for sendinge home John Bayes, to sollicite his highnes and councel. It is a great chardge they wil be at aboute him 20^m of sug. being his fallery, of which I should willingly beare the greatest share, so I might not have any in the mischeife, which I feare hee will bringe uppon us; however, I shall endeavour to overthrow his voyage, if I can. I must take more time to give you the true state of our law proceedings. We have not yett heard a word of the fleete. The Lord bleffe them is the dayly and constant prayer of

Your assured faithfull brother and servant,

THOMAS MODYFORD.

Bordeaux, the French ambassador at London, to secretary Thurloe.

MONSIEUR,

JE vous prie de vouloir jetter les yeux sur la lettre, que m'a escrite le sieur de Poincy. Elle vous fera voir le mauvais traitement, qui luy a este fait; comme il est contraire a celuy que recoivent en France les peuples d'Angleterre, & mesme aux ordres, qui avoient este envoyés aux officiers de Plimuth en suite de la plainte, que j'avois faite tant de la detention du dit sieur de Poincy, & de ceux, qui l'accompagnent, que du pillage de leurs meubles & victuailles. Je veux croire, que son altesse donnera des marques de sa justice & du desir, qu'elle a de conserver l'intelligence entre les deux nations, en ordonnant la restitution de ce que leur a este pris avec les dommages qu'ils ont soufferts, & faisant punir

A. D. 1655. punir les auteurs d'une telle action, qui réduit les dictz passagers a la derniere necessité. Elle m'oblige a demander, si leurs plainctes sont trouvés justes, qu'ils puissent avoir sans remise les ordres necessaires pour leur soulagement. Je suis,

à Londres, ce xxvi Juillet, 1655.

Monfieur, vostre tres humble serviteur,

DE BORDEAUX.

A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.

Paris, the $\frac{7}{28}$ August, July, 1655.

Vol. xxviii.
p. 7.

WE have nothing considerable from our armies by this order. It seemeth at present, they have a design to frame some other siege towards Flanders, and we hear, that at Milan one did transvert all the gold and silver of the churches into money, where great forces were also expected from Germany to resist prince Thomaso.

This week the deputy general of those of the religion hath received a letter from mr. de la Vrilliere, one of the four secretaries of state, by which he giveth him to understand, that the king doth much dislike the secret levies of monies and men made by the protestants of Languedoc, his natural subjects, for the relief of the rebels of the duke of Savoy, his kinsman; the which his majesty being not willing to suffer, he hath enjoined the said deputy general to acquaint them with his will, and with the defence he makes them to not transgress the same, under penalty of being declared criminals of leze majesty, and disturbers of the publick rest; which makes us conjecture, that France, who interposed itself for the agreement of those pretended rebels, will seem to be impartial, and at the same time shew those poor people what need they have of his majesty's favour, and to be on his side against the Bandito's and Spaniards of Piedmont, who watch continually for Pignerol.

The duke of Longueville doth make some levies of horse and foot in his government, to send to the royal army.

We hear by the last letters from Pezenas, that the prince of Conti was still there, in hopes to see shortly his lady with child, and then to return to Catalonia.

The dutchess of Bouillon le Mere is dead, with grief, as is said, by reason of the death of the count de la Feuillade, her grand-child.

Mr. Servient, overseer of the treasury, is returned here from Anjou, after he had been received there as seneschal of that province, by the voluntary dismission of the prince of Guymene.

The marquis of Verderonne coming from court, where he had been sent by his royal highness to congratulate his majesty on the taking of Landrecy, has repast by this city, to go to Blois. He has been well received at court, but he hath not seen cardinal Mazarin, by reason he had no order to see him.

We are informed, that the king is with his army towards Maubeuge, which is a great city ill fortified, which his majesty having caused to be summoned, it's thought to be already rendred to him, without staying for a siege.

The rumour runneth, that the cardinal of Retz is sick at Rome.

Resolution of the states general.

Veneris, August 7, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxviii.
p. 6.

UPON the memorial of the advocates employed by their high mightinesses for the affairs of those provinces at the *chambre mipartie*, this day exhibited and read, after deliberation, it was agreed to and resolved, that the lords president and counsellors of the *chambre mipartie* shall be applied to by a letter, that according to the laws and practice, as it is known, that those that are employed in some business or other, and have given their advice therein, can be no judges in the said affairs, as being not entirely impartial, and therefore unfit to give an impartial or unpassionate judgment touching the same. And that in the said letter shall be desired, that those of the said lords the counsellors, that from both sides have been employed in or about any affairs, depending before the said *chambre mipartie*, or have given any advice therein, would be pleased, as knowing it, and being convinced of it in their consciences, to withdraw themselves in that case, and procure, as far as it concerns such an affair or affairs, some disinterested person may be surrogated in their stead; or that an equal number of the other side withdrawing likewise, the said

saïd affair may be decided by the other lords judges of the *chambre mipartie*; with this addition, that in case of the contrary thereof, their high mightinesses would be obliged to refuse those counsellors as judges in such cases, wherein they have found or should still find hereafter, that they have been employed or have given their advice in. A. D. 1655.

Nieuport, the Dutch ambassador, to the protector.

To his most serene highness the lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, and Ireland, with the dominions thereunto belonging.

THE subscribed extraordinary ambassador of the lords the states general of the United Provinces hath by his former papers of the 1st of May, and of the 1st of June last past, most seriously shewn the great losses, wrongs, and prejudices, which some subjects of Holland and Zealand suffer by the seizure and detention of a ship of Middleburrow in Zealand, called the Hare in the Field, which ship, upon pretence that others than the people of the said United Provinces have an interest in some part of the lading, hath been diverted from his intended voyage, and been under restraint at Portsmouth about three whole months, with a company of fifty men, whose wages and diet the master and owners must provide for; and instead of releasing the said ship and goods, especially such as are claimed and proved to belong truly and really to subjects of the United Provinces, for many reasons represented to his most serene highness, in a letter of the lords the states of the province of Zealand, and other arguments expressed in the said ambassador's former papers, to which hitherto, notwithstanding several often-reiterated solicitations, no answer hath been given, the judges of the high court of admiralty have been pleased yesterday in the afternoon, by an order, as is pretended, of the committee of the admiralty and navy, to decree, against all laws and reasons, that the said ship should be removed from a safe road, where she now lyeth, and be exposed to the dangers of the sea and sands in bringing of the same to the port of London, the same being bound for Cadiz in Spain, which is altogether out of her intended course. And whereas such unjust proceedings (grounded upon an order of a committee, which never heard the parties interested in their defence, nor saw in a legal manner the proofs and allegations produced) cannot be tolerated by his highness, nor any well ordered government, being so manifestly repugnant to law, equity, and justice, and directly contrary to the late treaty of peace, union, and confederacy, established between the two states and nations, after the expence of so much wealth and blood; the said ambassador beseecheth most instantly, that his most serene highness, considering and duly ponderating, in the present constitution of times and affairs, the dangerous consequences of such exorbitant proceedings, will be pleased to rectify the same, and not suffer such blemishes to be cast upon the present government, to his enemies joy, and grief of his most assured friends and confederates. Given at Westminster, this 27th of July, 1655. Vol. xxviii. p. 708.

W. NIEUPOORT.

A letter of intelligence to mr. Christopher Boon.

St. Lucar, August 8, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

YOUR courteous lines of the 14th of June came this week to hand. I was sent by the duke, by the king's order, about the miscarriage of an aviso from Terra Firma, upon the coast of Portugal, and being near where general Blake's fleet lay, I went to kiss his hands, and to know if he had any service to command me for these parts, as I told him I was to return. Vol. xxviii. p. 11.

I question not but you are sensible of our condition, especially now half our town goeth out in this fleet, that goeth to meet the galleons, and will go to sea this week. I have got a protection from the duke for my person, as also what goods concern my self; and if things break out to a war, I know notwithstanding shall have licence and permission my self to trade.

Your servant,

HEN. RAMBOULAS.

Col. Phil. Jones to Secretary Thurloe.

DEARE SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
p. 728.

YOURS of the 19th I received the 27th. I returne my thanks for it. I have nothing new to trouble you with, and therefore shall not much longer detain you, then while I tell you, I am indeed heartily glad, you have gott some strength againe. I have this day another meeting (haveing had one already) with the young baronett about my lady Litcott's busines. I shall give you noe other account of it, till I know the full issue; only I assure you, that in any thing I have to doe for any frind of yours, I shall not be sleight or careles in it.

The Lord teach us to waite upon God for his pleasure in the churche in the West. I hope the effect of it will not be to discourage us, but to wayte our faith, and to make us to have an ey to him, and not instruments, for future successe. Hitherto the method of God with us hath been, to lessen our expectation from the means, that thereby we might more wait on him, and then to appeare. I desire to be thankfull to the Lord for the continuance of his highnes his health. The Lord alsoe will (I doubt not) continue his prefence with him. I am now preparing to waite on you in London, as soon as I can, unless I receive comaunds for any servis heere. I commend you to the Lord, and remaine,

Sir, your very affectionate and faithfull servant,

Swansey, July 29, 55.

PHIL. JONES.

An intercepted letter.

WORTHY SIR,

Vol. xxviii.
p. 740.

HAVING this opportunity, I thought good to write a word or two to you, especially considering I lately received a letter from you, about the import of which you might have expected an account before now. It was thursdai when my mayde received it, and laying it up, forgott to give it me, (which is not usuall in the like cases) till saturday, and then I had neither time to write, nor opportunity to send to you. You know it was about your journey to London, which is over; and I must confesse, that I was weake, that I did not more resist the importunity of some, who urged me to go, which yet I promised not absolutely, but with our bretheren's consent obtayned, (which could not bee.) And I thinke you would have judged me more weake, havinge declared dissatisfaction as to that you went about, to have concurred with you and others in that message, which, as it was delivered, (according as I am informed) I am affraid you had not cleere ground for, as from the churches, whose spirit was to be read and discerned in that assembly. And truly, sir, I must acknowledge my owne weaknesse and unworthynesse above others; and it is but just, that I should suffer something from those above, as your letter intimates; and I am sensible that I do suffer, at least in the thoughts of some, whom I do honour (as I am bound) farr above others, which have bin no litle temptation to me to comply with things; but I desire that I may never bee left by the Lord for any person's sake, or profit, or advancement, to call good evill, or evill good. And to speake playnely to you, I am still very much unsatisfied in the bottome and foundation of publick affaires, and am cleerly perswaded, it is not as it ought to bee, though (as I have often professed) I am cleere, that wee have the best governours in all the world, and such as for the good and safety of whose persons I could venture my life. I see, that they sett themselves to do good, and do much good, which good I ascribe to the goodnes of their persons, and not to the goverment it selfe, by which they are indeede bound from doing that good, which they do, and which I am perswaded they themselves and others will see every day more and more; and truly, sir, I am not of the number of those, that judge him, who is cheife, a wicked person and a tyrant: it is farr from me, though I cannot but say, that to my apprehension, there is a principall of tyranny in the goverment, and were not his person better then the goverment, wee should soone see and finde what manner of goverment wee are under. And indeede I wonder at wise men, who are able to distinguish betweene persons and things, and those actings, that flow from a person as in this or that capacity, should so frequently asert the goodnes of a thing, because they are satisfied in the goodnes of the person. Sir, yourselfe, I know, is much satisfied as to the person of the protector. I know your wisdom is such, as you are not by that led to bee satisfied in things, and how you can bee satisfied in things solely considered, I know not. And this I say further to you, that I cannot heare of two persons, nay not one (whom there is a cause to judge

judge so faithfull as yourfelfe and mr. Brewster) in three great countys, which I could name, which are so fatisfyed, as you manifest yourselves to bee, nor yet at all, if my information bee not false. 'Tis the observation of some, that have greater advantage of knowing persons and things then I have, and to speake a word more, because I judge you a friend, having found you so, that which troubles me very much, is the bondage and very hard usage of some exceeding eminent and worthy persons and Christians, because of their dissenting; truly I would not have an hand for a world, if I know my heart, in their sufferings, and oft times it lyes exceedingly upon my heart. Sir, those things I write you, I know you cannot mend them, that you may understand how it is with me, and truly it is not thus with me onely, but with most other men (though they are so wise) if I may call it their wisdom to conceale their dissatisfaction. I would not be tedious. I desire excuse for this boldnes, I speake my heart, and out of respect to you. I desire that you be armed against every temptation that is before you, for I know you cannot stand of yourfelfe. With myne and my wife's hartly respects to yourfelfe and mrs. Sheldrake, craving your prayers to bee directed and kept faithfull to the Lord at such a time as this, I rest in haile

Your most unworthy brother in the Lord,

Newalsham, July 30, 1655.

RICHARD B***.

Concerning the receipt I sent up, I heare nothing, though I have employed a friende to attend upon mr. Steele, who I hear have been out of towne. I expect soone to heare the result of his waiting. I make no great account of it, though I heartily thanke you for your love and paynes in it.

Yours, R. B.

Dr. Charles George Cock, one of the judges of the admiralty, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

WHEN I was last with you, I desired your honor to mynd his highness and the Vol. xxviii. councell of the necessity of settling some way for the makinge of publicque notes, P. 742. rics, both for the carryinge on the worke requisite for the people of this nation in their transactions one with another, as also to foreigne commerce, and such acts, as to bee legally done and carry authority abroad, require their concurrence. Wee have some, but many of that some are ignorant, and others are made *de facto*, and have the name, but are not in acceptation of law such, so that they put people to charge, and courts to trouble only. They are, I acknowledge, requisites only to the courtes, wher the civill law is used; therefore while those courts are used, I humbly conceive of a temporary necessity. The makinge of them, upon the dissolution of the papall power by H. VIII. [Anno 25. c. 21.] was by act of parliament settled in the archbishop of Canterbury, &c. and was in the officer called the master of the facultyes, which office wholly ceaseinge since the dissolution of the hierarchy, the necessity of affaires have made mee bold to address myselfe to his highness, to improve his power therein, by authorizeing eyther some person or the courtes of admyralty to the same till further order. His highness approved the reasons, but from multiplicity of affaires the thinge not beinge remembred, I presume to offer it to your consideration. At my cominge out of London you required mee to write to you about it, that you might not forget it; as also to remynd you of your petitioner captain Spryngall in custody at Lambeth, who desired my testimony to yourfelfe, what I know of him, which is, that havinge been severall tymes within 3 yeares (which is the utmost of my knowledge of him) in his company, I have heard him oft expresse himself, that though he loved the present king of Scots well, yet for a personall relation, or in relation to any one person whatsoever, he loved his country so much better, that he would never engage in or to a warr upon such a score; and would, if imployed, as faithfully serve his highness as any one livinge: the occasion of theis words have byn upon discourse of the severall attempts to a new warr. Sir, this is all I shall trouble your great occasions withall, which I had not presumed upon, but from yourfelfe freely inviteing mee to it. I shall leave theis particulars to your wisdom and consideration to doe as to you shall seeme best. I can only see the outside of thinges and affaires, and can only tell the word, not the mynde of men. I shall therefore waive all further intimations of my sense, and leave it to your better judgment, beinge,

Honorable sir, your most humble servant,

Norwich, July 30, 1655.

C. G. Cock.

The

The protector to the general of the fleet.

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxviii.
P. 744.
In the hand
writing of se-
cretary Thur-
loe.

WE have received yours of the 4th, as alsoe that of the 6th instant, both at once; the latter signifieinge the great preparations, which are makeinge against you. Some intelligence of that nature is alsoe come to us from another hand, which hath occasioned us to send away this dispatch unto you ymediately upon the receipt of yours, to let you knowe, that we doe not judge it safe for you, whilst thinges are in this condition, to send away any part of the fleet, as you were directed by our instructions of the 13th of June; and therefore, notwithstanding those orders, you are to keepe the whole fleet with you, untill you have executed the secret instructions, or finde the opportunitie is over for the doeing thereof. Wee thinke it likewise requisit, that you keepe with you the 2 frigotts, which conveyed the victualls to you, as alsoe the Nantwich, which was sent to you with a person bound for Lisbon, with our instructions to that kinge. And for the defects of the fleet, the commissioners of the admiraltie shall take care thereof; and be you confident, that nothinge shall be omitted, which can be done here for your supplye and encouragement. I beseech the Lord to be present with you. I rest,

Your very loveing freind,

O. P.

With this letter was sent the intelligence of the 20 ships comeinge across the Streights, and of the 31 ships, and 8 fire ships . . . in Cades.

Whitehall, July 30, 1655.

Ultimo die July, 1655.

Vol. xxviii.
P. 746.

A Warrant to the commissioners of the treasury to pay unto sir Thomas Honywood, knt. the sum of 500 l. with interest, payable to sir William Masham and the rest of the committee of Essex, on an order of parliament of the 10th of April 1645, and by the said committee assigned to the said sir Thomas Honywood, subscribed upon signification of his highness's pleasure by mr. secretary Thurloe.

An indenization granted unto Theobald Roades, an alien born, whereby he is invested with such franchises and privileges, as others, heretofore made denizens of this commonwealth, had been lawfully invested with; provided he be obedient to the laws, and pay customs and subsidies for his goods and merchandizes, as aliens do. Subscribed by mr. attorney general, upon signification of his highness's pleasure, by Lislebone Long, one of the masters of requests.

A like granted unto Anthony Ferdinando Carvajall and his two sons, with such privileges and provisions as aforesaid. Subscr. upon signification ut supra.

The office of receiver general of the revenue belonging to this commonwealth, within the counties of Southampton, Wilts and Dorset, granted unto Edward Butler, esq; to hold and exercise the same, by himself or deputies, during his highness's pleasure, with such fees, wages, and rewards, and allowances, as his highness, by the advice of his council, shall limit and appoint. Provision is made, that the said Edward Butler, before he enter upon the execution of the said office, shall enter into such recognizances in the exchequer, as shall be prescribed by the commissioners of the treasury, to account for and pay what revenue he shall receive into the receipt of exchequer. Subscr. ut supra, by his highness's immediate warrant.

The office of bailiff of the isle of Jersey granted to Michael Lemprier, esq; to hold the same during his highness's pleasure, by himself, or his lieutenant, so he be a person of approved integrity, faithfulness, and ability, with the powers, authorities, preheminences, profits and emoluments thereunto incident, and of right accustomed. Subscr. by warrant ut supra.

Per SMITHSBY.

Resolution of the states general.

Vol. xxvii.
P. 801.

REceived a letter from the resident Heinsius, wrote at Stockholm, on the 22d of June last, directed to Griffier Ruysch, containing advice; whereupon, being debated, it is resolved, that a copy of the answer of their high and mighty lordships, which they

hey gave to the lord Spar, embassador of the king of Sweden, shall be sent to the said resident Heinſius, to ſerve for his further information; and likewise to aſſure his majeſty and his miniſters, upon all good occaſions, that the contents thereof is the ſincere intention and meaning of their high and mighty lordſhips, with a deſire and requeſt, that they would not give credit to any other contrary reports. And likewise it is reſolved, that the ſaid reſident do follow the departure of his majeſty, till ſuch time that their high and mighty lordſhips do ſend to him to make a turn hither, for the diſpatching of his particular affairs.

A. D. 1655.

To general Diſbrowe.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR,

THE generalls arrived at Berbadus before the Marſton-moore, and ſent me to the Vol. xxviii.
Leward Iſlands, to rayſe a regiment of men, and lay an embargo on all ſhips. p. 748.
This I thought was needles, greatt hopes being to rayſe as many as we had nede of in Berbadus; beſides I knew itt out of the way to Carthagenæ; but itt being ordred by the commiſſioners, I went with Holdip and Blagge joyned in commiſſion with my ſelfe. This Holdip was preferred to a regiment, contrary to the minde of the major generall and all the collonells in the army, Forteſkue excepted, but quite contrary to mine owne minde, who knew him to be an envious, coveteous, hypocriticall fellow: butt the generall was wilfull, and did preferre him. After we had continued 3 weekes at the Leward Iſlands, the fleete appearing, we ſhipt our men in 4 prizes, which we had taken, and in the Marſton-moore, and Selby. We ſett ſayle with the whole fleete, landed at Hiſpaniola, and were cowardly beaten; loſt the good major generall; lieutenant collonell Clarke received his death's wound; major Forgeſon, capt. Buttler, the captain of the reformades, and ſeverall other perſons of quality, were ſlayne by a handfull of cowardly Molatoes and Negroes. My letter to his highnes will lett your honour know the truth of all paſſages on that iſland. Att laſt embarked our men, and ſett ſayle for this iſland Jamaica, which we ſoone became maſters of, meting with little oppoſition; and might have ſurprized all the people, if the generall had nott lett them goe by an inconfiderate treaty. They lie in the woods, and, as they ſee opportunity,* cut off your poore ſouldiers, as they ſtraggle up and downe. The generall is about coming home, who made Forteſcue his major generall, without acquainting his highnes commiſſioners. Believe me, ſir, the general is coveteous and nigardly, and (in fine) is much out of the heart of his ſouldiers, through his imprudence and unfoldier-like deportment; but ſure I am, he is prodigall enough of his highnes revenue, cares nott what becomes of his army, ſoe hee himſelfe be well. He cannott endure to be enformed of his errour. Generall Penn hath nott bene wanting, both to hazard his perſon, and forward his highnes ſervice, who, I preſume, can acquaint your honour with all paſſages; for whoſe civilityes to myſelfe I am much bounde. God give him a ſafe returne with thoſe ſhips, which come with him. The ſhip Diſcovery was burned in this harbour by an accident, after ſhe had taken in the generall's lower tier of gunns, as the generall was about to carene his ſhips; but, through God's bleſſing and his endeavour, are all recovered. This paſſage of providence, with generall Penn's weaknes, I thought would have proved his death; but now his ſtrength is pretty well recovered, and the affliction I hope truly ſanctified to him. Mr. Winflow dyed of griefe to ſee our army putt off Hiſpaniola, who was buried honourably att ſea, on our way betwixt Hiſpaniola, and this iſland. God ſanctify theſe ſad diſpenſations of providence to his highnes and your honour, to graunt you that wiſdome, which may cheare your heart under his will, and direct you never to lett a generall's wife accompany him in forraine ſervice. Generall Venables returning will enforce me to come with him, my power being att an ende, and he proving my adverſary for that good adviſe I gave him. This bearer, the rear-admirall, can acquaint your honour, that all the time we lay by Hine river, he constantly lay on board the ſhip every night (two only excepted.) Sir, for all thoſe noble favours, which God by you hath conferred on me, I returne your honour moſt humble thankes, and reſt

Your moſt unworthy ſervant.

I hearwith ſende your honour the accompte of the Duch eſtate, ſeized att the Leward Iſlands, with the diſburſments, and what is remayning.

Fleetwood, *lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.*

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
P. 25.

I HAVE received from you a relation of the sad rebuke, which the Lord hath bine pleased to give our forces in Hispaniola. The Lord affect our harts with a due sence thereof, and give us to understand his voyce therein. I confes I doe not thincke it fitt for mee or others to question the grounds of that designe, not knowing it, and trusting it was undertaken in the feare of the Lord; yett I doe acknowledge, I have very much questioned what would become of some instruments imployed therein: wee have had eminent experience, how the Lord hath owned some, and rejected others; and as wee doe looke upon this worke to be in order to what hitherto hath bine caryed on, why wee should not have bine more carefull to imploy them there, who have bine rejected and cast out from amongst us heere, it is not fitt for mee to question; only give mee leave to have my feares, that where there hath bine a fayling in this, or by any other humane confidence, the Lord lye us low in his presence, and teach us still to keepe and continue in the old good way of seeking his face, and seeing his presence to goe before us in all our undertakings; and that those, who are precious to him, may be more and more upon our harts to trust and imploy in this worke; for I am perswaded, it wil be still too hard for men of corrupt spiritts and practises to be entertayned therein. None hath bine more signally owned in the choyce of persons then his highnes. Excuse my freedome, that I thus plainly write; for amongst other things I doe believe, the Lord would have us to learne something of this nature. I doe not know, whether there may be more need of men to be sent; but if soe, I believe this time of reducing heere might be seasonable in order thereunto. The Lord teach us more and more to see where our trust and confidence alone hath bine. I hope wee shall have a blessed opportunity again. Wee are now upon considering the busines of disbanding. I wish wee may be directed to a right choyce therein, that the most worthy may be continued. I hope wee shall partake of his highnes favour, in sending some money for the reducement here as well as in Scotland, who I perceive by my lord Broghill, are provided for, and there arrears ascertain'd. Wee have neither, but hope wee are under the same care. I suppose about the middle of September wee shal be comeing hence. If his highnes would have any thing done before my returne, I wish I might suddenly receive his commands. Be pleased to favour me with any further account you shall heare from generall Pen or generall Venables. I doe trust, wee shal heare of his gracious appearance, now he hath showed us how vayn a thing man is in his greatest strength and confydence. I am

Your humble servant,

August 1, 55.

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

Fleetwood, *lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.*

SIR,

Vol. xxix.
P. 5.

I HAVE formerly troubled you with a representation of the suffering condition of coll. Phaire, major Wallis, and capt. Deane, in their undertaking, and sending away 1488 Irish souldiers to Spaine, in consideration whereof his highnesse, by the advise of his councill, was pleased, by his letter of the 14th of November last, to recommend their said suffering condition unto the councill here, to consult the finding out some expedient in Ireland, to repaire their losses, att least in some competent proportion, and to returne the same to his highnesse, that such further confirmation might bee made therein, as to justice appertaineth. In pursuance whereof the councill have ordered his highnesse commissioners of the revenue of Ireland, to examine the disbursements of the said persons, which appeared to be 2933 l. 4 s. 1 d. and in order to the reimbursment thereof, caused a strict survey to bee taken of certain lands in the barronies of Muskery and Barratts in the county of Cork. And upon returne of the said survey, ordered the said commissioners to proceed to contract with the said persons for so much of the said lands, as will satisfy the said debt, at the rate of six yeares purchase, as the same was worth in the yeare 1640, being the time of their highest improvement. The contract with the whole proceedings will bee herewith tendered by capt. Deane, for his highnes confirmation. My satisfaction in the publiquenesse of the intentions of the poore gentlemen, and of the real and singuler advantage, that accrues to the well and quiett settlement of those parts, from which the men were sent, and also the encouragement they had both from my selfe and others, occasions mee to request your faviour in this addresse, who am your humble servant,

August 1, 1655.

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

H. Cromwell, *major general of the army in Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.*

SIR,

SIR Charles Coote, lord president of Connaght, in pursuance of an order of parliament, had a grant of some lands about Gormanston in the county of Meath, which he desires may passe under the broad scale of England; and his lordship having desired me to write to you to present the same unto his highness, I am obliged, as well from a sense of his greates merit and faithfullnes, as by the justice of the request, to entreate your furtherance thereunto; whereby you will not onely lay a great obligation upon his lordship, but engage me to an acknowledgement of your favour and care therein, who am,

Dublin, August 1, 1655.

Sir, your affectionate freind and servant,

H. CROMWELL.

H. Cromwell to *secretary Thurloe.*

SIR,

THE remembrance of your kindnesse shewed unto my major the last summer in the management of that affaire, wherein himselfe, collonel Pharie, and captain Deane is concerned, occasions mee to returne you thanks. My lord deputy and counsell (I understand) hath offerred an expedient for their reimbursments, which will be herewith tendered. I am satisfied their undertakeing was much upon a publique accompt, and the effects a very reall advantage to the quiet settlement of those partes, from which the men were sent. I shall therefore onely request the continuance of the like favour to captaine Deane, who am,

Dublin, August 1, 1655.

Sir, your humble servant,

H. CROMWELL.

Col. Reynolds to *secretary Thurloe.*

SIR,

I Promised to trouble you with my letters also, and although I doubt not, that my not wrighting would bee most pardonable, yet vouchsafe to receive these few lines.

It hath beene observed, that there is a constant genius to some countreyes, though it alters in the appearances and actours. I wish poore Ireland may not give a credit to such a fiction, and our two extremes be prejudiciall as formerly. The most present remedy will be the settlement of power in the hands of moderate, wise, religious persons; and although I shall take the boldnes hereafter to enlarge in some greater instances, yet I do beleive, that what I have to offerr will be a good meanes to settle one of our best provinces, viz. if you please to second the lord deputy's and my humble motion, that collonel Clerke may be employed in Ulster. Generall Venables regiment being vacant of a collonell, and there being 1000 foote ready to be sent to him from Ireland, if his highnes please to send them to him, insteade of his owne regiment, it affords a just occasion for this my humble suite to you, wherein you will exceedingly content the lord deputy, and very much establish your affaires here, which are not so stable as might be wished, to which it will be a small addition to my arguments, that you will thereby oblige,

Dublin, August 1, 1655.

Sir, your faithfull humble servaunt,

J. REYNOLDS.

The secretary of the Swedish envoy to secretary Thurloe.

GENEROSISSIME DOMINE,

QUUM præter spem ac opinionem, post discessum nostrum Stokholmiâ, maximum effluxum sit tempus, adeo ut minimè dubius sit excellentissimus dominus legatus, quin S. R. majestas Sueciæ maximo desiderio afficiatur, aliquid reale de nominati domini legati commissione audienda, ideoque sua excellentia omni quo par est studio ac honore contendit, ut placeat vestræ generositati à sua celsitudine domino protectore (attamen sine præjudicio alicujus

A. D. 1655. alicujus majoris negotii) impetrare, quod adhuc ante obitum nuncii ordinarii proximi, prædicto domino legato de quibusdam negotiis cum sua celsitudine domino protectore privatim conferre liceat. Quam gratiam ut magnam, ita majori officii genere excellentissimus dominus legatus demereri studebit, atque ego in particulari semper declarabo, me esse

Generositati vestræ

Die Augusti 1, 1655.

Addictissimum fer.

Johan. Barkmann, secret.

Secretary Thurloe to the count de Charost, governor of Calais.

MONSIEUR,

Vol. xli. p. 1. **T**HIS noble gentleman mr. Downinge being sent unto the king of France with letters from my lord the protector of England, I take the boldness to commend him to your favour, and to desire you to afford him such direction and means for his safe passage to the court, as you shall judge necessary; which his highness will esteeme as a respect done to himself, and be obliged to answer your civilitie upon all occasions. I would alsoe take this opportunitie to assure you, that I shall esteem any commands of yours as a great honour to me, as I doe to be reckoned in the quality of

[August 1, 1655.]

Your most affectionate and humble servant.

An intercepted letter of king Charles II. to the earl of Leven.

Collen, August 12, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD LEVEN,

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great Britain.

I Heare you have made some contract to leavy men in Scotland, and to transporte them beyond the seas, for the service of some foraine prince; which I doubt not you have undertaken without the least ill purpose towards me: but I looke upon all designs of that nature as most prejudiciall to my service, and mischivous to the kingdome; and therefore desire you, not only to decline it your selfe, but to dissuade all your frinds from it. And I am confident your affection is such to me, that you will satisfie me herein; and you shall always find me to be

Your affectionate frinde,

For the earle of Leven.

CHARLES R.

Extract out of the resolutions of the lords the states of Holland and West-Friesland, taken on thursday August 12, 1655.

Vol. xxix.
p. 442.

Deliberation being held by way of resumption, on the 13th article of the present convocation, touching the payment of the troops that have served this state in Brasil, and thereupon the written advice concerning the finding out of the funds, which are necessary and required for this and other purposes, inserted in the journal of the 11th instant, being put under further deliberation, it was agreed to and resolved upon, that by the lords the deputies of their noble and great mightinesses, in the general assembly, this affair shall be thus regulated and promoted with all earnestness, that the mortgages made on fundry lordships and estates, belonging to the state, shall be paid off with all speed, and thereupon the said mortgaged lordships and estates be sold immediately to the highest bidder, to the end that out of the money issuing therefrom, the said forces may be satisfied; at least that by provision, out of the readiest money thereof, some of the said militia, which to their great sorrow, and under great charges and expences, have waited here some time for the same, some comfort may be given; and that they shall represent the justice and necessity of the aforesaid, and the reasons, whereby their noble and great mightinesses are moved to a compassion for the sake of the said militia, to the end that their high mightinesses, for the support of the said militia, may come to a speedy resolution, and this affair be brought to a prompt conclusion.

Mr.

Mr. George Serle and Mr. Richard Bouett to Secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

THERE being imparted unto us an information given in unto the right honourable A. D. 1655.
the council, by Mr. Robert Gay, minister of Nettlecombe in this county, against one Vol. xxix.
Mr. Barnard Wayte, an unfetled minister, who had in discourse delivered speeches, where- P. 45.
by he discovered not only his disaffectedness, but his knowledge and approbation of the persons, who lately did rise in rebellion at Salisbury, with justifying the actions of Charles Stewart, the pretended king of Scots; whereupon the council were pleased to issue their warrant for the apprehending the said Wayte, who could not be found at his lodging, nor met with at that time at London. This Mr. Wayte being, as it seemeth, as well a wandering person, as unfetled and disaffected; and we understanding he repaired sometimes into these parts, we held it our duty to issue forth our warrant for his apprehending, in case he should come into these parts, by virtue of which warrant he was lately apprehended, and brought before us at Taunton, whom we by our warrant committed unto the common goal of Ivelchester, expressing in the mittimus the cause to be upon vehement suspicion of high treason. It was but a very few days since we sent him away. We account it our duty to present the whole matter unto you, with our desires, that you will be favourably pleased to communicate this act of ours unto the council, to the end we may receive their further commands, and understand their pleasure, how to dispose of Mr. Wayte, whose language renders him very suspicious and dangerous. We shall be ready to pursue such further order, as the council shall direct, either by sending Mr. Wayte up to London, to make his answers there, where his charge lyeth attested, or what else shall be by the council thought fit to command. We make it our humble request and suit unto you, to procure us from the council such further directions for the disposal of the said Mr. Wayte, as in their wisdoms they shall think requisite; whereby you will lay a very great obligation on, sir,

Your very respective and willing servants,

From Taunton, August 2, 1655.

GEO. SERLE,
RICHARD BOUETT.

Lord chief justice St. John to Secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I Pray pardon this trouble upon the suggestions in the petition inclosed, and likewise In the posses-
that the party, that tendred it to his highnes, was about Whitsontide. His on of the
highnes by his letter implys his command of a reprieve, the partie being condemned for right honour-
the burglary upon cleare evidence and his owne confessione, but leaves it to mee, as able Philip
I finde the facts. I have enquired, and feare, that his master durst not keepe him, his lord Hard-
life was soe wicked. He was a greates comrade of Honnox, the notoriouse burghler and wicke, lord
highwayman lately prest to death, and this man a habeas corpus is come to remove high chancel-
him to Cambridge, to be tryed for a robbery. I intende in respecte to his highnes lor of Great-
letter to reprieve him untill to morrow fennight, that soe if it be his highnes pleasure, Britain.
he may reprieve him in the meane time; but I am informed, he is a very notoriouse per-
son; that the woman called his wife was another man's wife, and kept by him. The
marshall of London, the bearer, will informe you further of him. Sir, let me heare
when you intend for the country, and doe that right to your health, which God and nature
requires. I rest

Your most affectionate servant,

Berry, August 2, 1655.

OL. ST. JOHN.

3 quakers weare heare indited; one for a vagrant, whoe is ordred, according to the
stat. to be whipt; the other 2 for disturbance of the peace, by rayling against the
minister and ministry, in the open congregation, and in the open market, that they
weare all idle doggs, deceivers of the people, *cum multis aliis*. I fined each of these 20
marks, and imprisonment untill paid.

Mr. George Downing to secretary Thurloe.

HONORABLE SIR,

A. D. 1655. **I** AM now aboard the Tredagh friggott, and shee is setting sayle for Calais. I hope to be there ere night on shoare, the wind being very fayre.

Vol. xxix.
p. 88.

I am, fir,

Your very reall humble servant,

G. DOWNING.

Aboard the Tredagh, this 4th of August, 1655.
9 of the clocke in the morning.

Eustace Smyth to general Blake.

From on bord the Richard and Marth. August 4, 1655.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxix.
p. 84.

MY due respects to your honor, &c. These may certifie, that the Spanish fleet are ready, and intends to sayle as to morrow, beeing in number about 32 sayle of men of ware, the greatest part of which are but small shippes, having not above 30 or 34 peece of ordinance apeece, the admirall not exeding above 42. Great part of their fleet are hired shippes, being Genoweffes, Hamburgers, and Hollanders. As I understand, they intend to sayle towards the coast of Barbary, and so to the westward, to escape your honor's fleet for the space of 5 or 6 dayes, till their men be somewhat recoverd from being seasicke, for they be most of them souldiers and landmen, not acquainted with the sea. They have 4 fire-shippes in their fleet, being small barkes, not above 40 tuns. This being all I am able to informe your honor, I rest

Your honor's most humble servant,

EUSTACE SMYTH.

They would have bought my shipp at any rate whatever. I intend to depart hence within 3 or 4 dayes, being ready to serve your honour with ship or person, as farre as please to command me service.

A paper of the states of Holland and West Friesland.

Read August 14, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxix.
p. 440.

THE states of Holland and West Friesland observing and taking into due consideration, that it has pleased most graciously the Almighty God by the peace concluded the last preceding year with the republick of England, and since the conclusion thereof considerably to augment and encrease the credit of this state, after previous mature deliberation have agreed to and resolved upon, in order to bring the finances into a good condition; and to support and strengthen the same more and more, from time to time, besides and beyond what for the said purpose this day has been concluded and firmly agreed in behalf of the province of Holland and West Friesland, to be proposed and represented for the said province, to the generality, that their noble and great mightinesse for the reasons aforesaid, in the present conjuncture of time and affairs, cannot consent, that the capitals negotiated for the account of the generality, shall run on and continue at an interest of five per cent. but they have resolved, that all the redeemable rents and interest, payable at the charge aforesaid, as well on account of the treasury of the sea, and the respective colleges of the admiralty; as also on account of that of the land, as well as in the treasury of the generality; as also in those of all the treasurers and subaltern receivers, as well of the domains and contributions, as also of the publick revenues of the generality, and otherwise none excepted shall and ought to be reduced from five to four per cent. so that the money that shall thus be saved by the said ensuing reduction, for the publick good of this state, shall be employed only for the payment of the negotiated capitals, and shall not be diverted for any other use, neither directly nor indirectly. And to the end that the respective provinces may be made entirely easy in that respect,

spect, it is resolved, that besides the execution of the resolution, to be procured from A. D. 1655: their high mightinesses, on the account aforesaid, all the respective treasurers and receivers shall be commanded in writing, to take care and be mindful, that upon the concurrency of any sums which they in their respective chambers, by the said ensuing reduction, shall keep in cash, may be employed for the payment of the negotiated capitals, and also that the said payments may encrease from year to year by the addition of the interest for the capital sum which they in the manner aforesaid have paid off, the foregoing year, with this special admonition, that from year to year so much less rent, and interest money in proportion, shall be passed in their accounts. And that they shall obey no orders to the contrary hereof, or deflecting therefrom, by whomsoever the same may be given them, without a new command in writing, and express resolution of their high mightinesses. And that the lords deputies in the accomptant chamber of the generality, shall likewise be written to, to regulate themselves strictly according thereunto, in the passing and examining of the said accounts. And that, for an entire and full confirmation thereof, it shall be consented to by the respective provinces, and decreed, that in the aforesaid regulation and easement of the finances and payment of the capitals, not the least alteration shall be made. Thereupon, after previous mature consideration, the assembly of the states shall be summoned in each respective province, in order to pass the aforesaid regulation by unanimity of the votes of all the provinces. However so that therein no single province shall be outvoted by the majority. Hague, August 7, 1655. [N. S.]

Underneath stood,

By order of the high mentioned lords the states of Holland and West-Friesland.

HERB. VAN BEAUMONT.

A letter of intelligence from Rome.

Rome, August 14, 1655. [N. S.]

GREAT complaints the Spaniards make against Cromwell, calling him ungrateful, Vol. xxix. and with their wonted petulancy threaten England, because admiral Pen has possessed p. 204. himself of the castle St. Domingo, and other ports in the West Indies, which is very prejudicial to the Spaniard. They go insinuating themselves into the ears of those, who are disaffected to Cromwell. They likewise lament of the Irish, who have not done their duty at Landrecy, whereby the town is fallen into the hands of the French.

This is an extract verbatim out of the Roman weekly diurnal.

Mrs. Mary Gernon to secretary Thurloe.

HONORABLE SIR,

I HAD waited on you, but sickness prevented me. The earle of Arundell is my Vol. xxix. neere kinsman, and he is in great affliction, because he is kept amongst priests and jesuits. p. 102. He desires earnestly to live a protestant in England, the place of his nativity: except it please God to make you the instrument to redeeme him from perishing in the church of Rome, he shall never be brought into England alive. Those, that have the guardianship of him, might have done it long since; and if you send by those that will not goe, untill they have money for theyre journey out of his estate, his heart will breake before they come at him. If it should please your honour to move his highness, to write to the states of Venice, to send the earle of Arundell into England, I have a freind, who is well known to his highness, who shall wait on you, when you command him, and will carry the protector's letter with all speed, and on his owne charges, and will furnish the earle of Arundell with moneys for his journey into England. By doing this act of charity will bring blessings to you and yours for ever.

Your honor's most humble servant

London, August 5, 1655,

MARY GERNON.

Mr.

Mr. Geo. Downing to secretary Thurloe.

HONORABLE SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xli.
p. 162.

S Atterday about 9 at night myselfe with some other of my company landed at Calais: the governor the count de Charost supposing some public person was in the friggott, commanded a captain and a lieutenant of the garrison to attend the landing, and accordingly they received me as soon as I came to shore, and brought me to such lodging as was to be had without the towne wall, giving command to the people of the house to use me with all civility. Sunday in the morning the captain coming again to my lodging, carried me to the governor, and shewing him my passe, giving also the letter, he pressed me to dine with him, which accordingly I did with some of my company. The governor came to my lodging about 12 of the clocke with most of his officers and equipage to bring us to dinner. He also came this morning in like manner to take his leave of me, and indeed in all things used me and my whole company with all possible civility, and complemented his great joy at his highnesse's welfare. He made one request to me, which was, that I would gett him a pass for six horses, and I could not deny him, having received so much courtesy, and have therefore left with him a short letter to yourself, which he will send to you for to have the passe. I shall be very wary what promises in any kind I make, and what I do make while in this condition, I know you will as carefully see made good; and I assure you they shall be as few as 'tis possible for me to make. I pray if he send any person with the letter, take notice of his civility to me. The lord Gerard, and one Ch. Rogers, and divers other cavalliers were in the towne, divers of them lodged in the same inne with me, and the lord Gerard was there divers howres with some others. The officers of the garrison told me, that Gerard was in the quality of an ambassadour, but he denyes it himselfe. He was yesterday to have dined with the governor, but because of my being there he came not. I mett also some of them in the street, but as soon as they saw me, they turned another way, and hitherto I thank God we are well. The governor of Calais could not tell where the king or the army were, but advised me to go to Bologne, and so to Abbeville, and that in the way I should learne wher both were. This morning I came from Calais with a convoy of a dozen horse, which the governor was desirous I should take with me, but I returned them within six miles of the towne. I have sent to the lieutenant governor of this place: he tells me, that he thinks the king is at Fere; but that as soon as the post is come, he will send me the certaynty in case the king be therabout. I intend to morrow night to go to Abbeville, the next night to Amiens, and then I shall be within about 14 leagues of la Fere; but in case the king be on his way further into France, or so in motion as that no certainty is to be had where to find him, then the governor of Calais hath absolutely advised me to go to Paris, where I shall have certayn opportunityes of going to him; and he said, that the governor of Bredah, coming lately to Calais, was forced to go to Paris, and then to the king, being sent about publique affayres. I will take the nearest way I can: with my humble duty to his highnesse, I am,

Sir, your most faithful humble servant,

Bologne, monday August 17th, 1655.

G. DOWNING.

Truly I think it were not amisse to oblige the governor so farr as to let him have his passe be custome free; had it not been for the great civility he shewed me, probably I had had some small encounter with the blades at Calais.

Count de Charost, governor of Calais, to secretary Thurloe.

MONSIEUR,

Vol. xliv.
p. 86.

* Downing.

JE n'estois pas icy, lorsque mr. Moreland y passa. J'ay seulement trouvé a mon arrivée la lettre, dont vous l'aviez chargé pour moy, que j'ay receue avec beaucoup de joye, mais bien du desplaisir, de ne vous avoir peu tesmoigner en ce rencontre le desir, que j'ay de vous rendre service. Ma seule consolation est, que monsieur de Courtebourne, lieutenant de roy, qui commande en mon absence, a fait tout ce que j'aurois pu faire moy mesme; & qu'au passage de monsieur Douin * j'ay esté plus heureux, ayant tasché de luy donner toute l'assistance, dont il a eu besoin, conformement a la demande, que vous m'en faictes par la seconde lettre, dont vous m'avez honoré, & ainsy que je feray tousjours tres volontiers a l'endroit de toutes les personnes, qui viendront de la part de monsieur le protecteur,

protecteur, au quel & a vous aussy je tiendray a gloire de faire cognoistre, combien j'ay de passion a contribuer a une bonne correspondance entre ces deux estats. Voicy cy jointe une lettre, que ledict sieur Douin a voulu vous escrire touchant un passeport pour quelques chevaux, que je desirerois faire venir de vostre pays. Sy c'est une chose, qui ne vous soit point a importunité, & qui se puisse faire, je vous en seray particulierement obligé, & je vous proteste de m'en revancher en toutes les occasions, que j'en pourray avoir, & qui pourront vous persuader, que je suis veritablement,

à Calais, le 16 Aoust, 1655. [N. S.]

Monfieur, vostre tres humble

& tres affectionné serviteur,

CHAROST.

Fleetwood, *lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.*

SIR,

I HAVE now received his highnes positive commands to returne into England, and can now undertake my journey with much comfort, trusting the Lord hath given mee a call thereunto; and upon that account I have satisfaction, though I expect in no place or condition to be without my trialls, yet where a call is, one may expect that presence from the Lord, which shall owne, and alone can support, in any condition. I shall endeavour to put things into as good a condition as I can before my returne, and make the worke as easie to my brother as may be, who though he may have sometimes some melancholy thoughts, yet I hope he will find it much better then he may at present expect; and I am confident will find the army as obedient and faithfull to his highnes service, as can be expected from men. I having now received orders for reduceing, shall proceed with more vigour then hitherto wee have done, having not as yet resolved upon the persons; but I hope before this moneth ends, the busines will be effected, and a militia of 2000 foot, and about 500 horse, which is as much as wee shal be well able to spare mony for. That which his highnes propounds, of letting them have lands, I fear little advantage wil be made thereof for there encouragement; for upon there setting downe they will all have more then they can improve. As for what you mention concerning the law, I wish wee may understand our instructions as yow seeme to doe; but if I could tell, whether any regulation were intended in England, I thinke it were best to stay till that time, before wee doe any thing actually heere, much doubting whether wee shall agree about doing any thing effectually; not but that I am consciensiously satisfied to uphold the law; but the corruption and delays of itt I would be glad to see removed. If the Lord pleases, I intend to sett forward from hence about the beginning of September: sooner I would, by reason of my wife's condition, but that I fear affairs heere will not permitt it. I shall not further trouble, but remaine

Your affectionate friend and humble servant,

Phoenix, Aug. 7, 55.

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

Sir W. Compton to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

ABOUT two monthes since a party of horse was at my house in Cambridgesheere, at which time, being in the West, I did upon notice, that souldiers had been at my house, repaire directly to London; and, by the meanes of sir Lionell Tollemach, his highnes was acquainted with my being here; and sir Lionell Tollemach waiteing upon you for his highnes commands, brought the order to render myself to lieutenant collonell Worsey, in whose custody I have remained ever since, which makes me take the bouldnes to present this humble adrese, to intreat the favour, that his highnes may be mooved for an order for my discharge; for which I shall ever remaine

August 8. 1655.

Your most oblidged and humble servant,

W. COMPTON.

A letter of intelligence.

Madrid, August 18, 1655. [N. S.]

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
P. 150.

IT is here said, that Blake hath order to take Spaniards since the first of this instant; and it is well found to be truth, for the last week two Dunkirk ships, which it is said were worth 300,000 ducats, these same fought one whole day, and sunk two of Blake's ships, but at last took them. Thursday, the 12th instant, came out of Cadiz the fleet, which the traders of Seville did set forth: it is compounded of 28 sail of men of war, and 6 fire-ships. They carry 6,000 men, brave soldiers, and 36 long boats. It is said, they would soon fight them, which we shall soon know. God help ours, and send the galleons in safety; so that I believe it will be a breach.

Mr. W. Prideaux to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxix.
P. 146.

WITH this your honour will receive a duplicate of my last written from Mosco, under covert to the Muscovia company, left with mr. Johannis de Rodes (the crown of Sweden's commissary) whose promised mee to send it by his brother. He was to dispeed for Riga or the Narva, about eight dayes after my departure from Mosco; and that it should be safely sent to Hambourgh according to my directions; soe that I hope the orriginall will come saefe to your honour's hands.

After that I had the chancellor's answers translated into Englishe, I found in them the titles due to his highnesse lord protector not given; I sent to Almaze to desire him to send mee the prime writer of his office, which hee did; and when hee came, I tolde him of the error committed in the chancellor's answers, of omission in them of his highnesse's titles (alsoe that my speech and writings delivered to Almaze, the 28 of February last, not fully answered) which made mee to imagen the like to be done in the emperor's letter given mee. And if soe, it could not bee otherwise then very ill taken in England, being that his highnesse hath given his majestie all those titles, that in England was at my departure from thence known that hee had assumed to himselfe, and perchance more then other princes did give him. And his majesty not corresponding to give his highnesse that, which justly appertains unto him, and is given him by the kings, princes and republiks of Europe, his highnesse could not but take it ill. And soe much I desired him to signifye to the chancellor, who might have remembered what I told him the 28th of February last, touching his highnesse in this particular. The writer promised mee to make a faithfull relation of what I had tolde him to Almaze. I then demanded of the writer, if John Hebden had not wrested the words highnesse and lord in his translations of my writings; to which hee replied, that hee was not certayne thereof; but that he would looke them over, and certifye mee the truth before my departure from Mosco, how hee found them.

The daye following the chancellor sent mee the sayde writen letter with money for the emperor's allowance for the dayes I had not taken it at Mosco, and for some dayes in my journey to Archangell, which Almaze did, by his majestie's order, and I received it. Alsoe the writer tolde mee, that there was a prestave appointed for my conduction to Archangell, (I had the same men that went with mee from hence to Mosco) with five souldiers for my garde, and twenty two horses for my selfe, people, and bagage, to Vollegda, there a boate shall be provided for mee, with 22 men to rowe it downe heather, all which I had accordingly; but to what I had told the writer the daye before, hee brought mee noe answer from the chancellor, although he assured mee to have signified unto him at full what I had incharged him with; and that hee had not tyme to looke over the translations made to my writings by Hebden. And this is soe much as I could have at Mosco of these matters.

I was accompanied out of Mosco a little without the walls of the citty only by the prestave I had there. The custome is to receive messengers sent from kings to that emperor, by a gentleman a mile or two out of the citty, accompanied with some horsemen souldiers, and to bee soe conducted at his departure. At my arrivall to Mosco I had the chancellor's excuses for that omission, as I have heretofore written; but at my departure thence there was none further made mee, soe that I cannot tell whether it be a willfull neglect yea or noe; as esteeming a gentleman sent from his highnesse not to meritt that which hath bine usually done to such as have come from the kings of England to that emperor in that quality I ame from his highnesse.

I arrived to this citty yesterdaye morning, and had from this governor the like reception A. D. 1655.
out of my boate, as I had last yeare; that is, I past from it to the company's house (where I lodge) through a layne of about six hundred souldiers. Hee had advisse of my coming the night before, and at my arrivall to the house hee sent to visit me by a cheeffe writer of the emperor's office, with a very civill compliment.

Here is now in this porte 36 sayle of shippes, Hollanders, Hamburgers, and Bremers, and two others are already departed, and three or fower were expected. And of English shippes 5 are here in porte, and one more expected. This is all I can write to your honour for the present, being the shipp, by whome I send this to Amsterdame, is on departure. Soe I humbly take leave, and remayne,

Right honourable,

Archangell, Aug. 8, 1655.

your honour's moste humble servant,

W. PRIDEAUX.

H. Cromwell, *major general of the army in Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.*

SIR,

I Perceive by your laste, that you expect a speedy reducement of the forces heer, but not Vol. xxix.
one worde in answer to what I writte to you in my laste, touchinge that parte of our P. 130.
army, that is with you in Englande, upon which our whole busines depends, for we cannot actually disbande any untill they are returned. We have proceeded neer to ane issue in our resolutions as to the persons; and I am glade you have left the manner of it to the deputy, for those reasons I gave you in my laste. We have likewise had thoughts of formeinge a militia, and hope to make it bothe practicable and of good use to the publike. All is verrey quiett and peaceable, and men nowe doe begin to thinke it is but reasonable, that their shoulde be ane equallitie helde out to all such as have bin fellowe-labourers together, and continue sober and honest. And I hope it will be the care of those intrusted heer to see it accordingly administred to such only, though their are some amonge us doe think, that they are not well used, if a good place slippe by them, and doe take care to prevent any such miscarriage, as nowe in the settinge up the courts of justice; but I hope we shall keep the sollicitor general's place for a person of your choice, whome I desire may be sent speedily. I feare I may too often trouble you with my impertinencies. I am,

Dublin, August 8,
1655.

Sir, your truly affectionate freind

and humble servant,

H. CROMWELL.

Lord Petre to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

I HAVE (contrary to my modest genius) adventured to addresse a few lines to his high- Vol. xxix.
nesse, being chiefly induced therto by some gracious words hee was pleased to use to P. 142.
mee a little before I became a prisoner. But how to excuse myself to you, to whom I am altogether a stranger, I must referre it to your owne goodnesse. Yet, sir, when I looke upon you as a person of the most intimate trust and confidence with his highnesse, I thought it a befeeming method to acquaint you with my desires first; and to pray your judgement in this way of application, which I have made use of. My request to his highnesse (wherin I should thinke myself happy, if I could engage you to bee my advocate) is this; that in regard of certain great businesse, which lies gasping by reason of my restraint, hee would bee pleased either to grant mee a full liberty or freedome upon my owne engagement, to follow my said occasions.

Sir, when I come to have the honour of being known to you, you will find you could not have bin instrumentall to oblige any man, that hath lesse crime upon him, or greater desire to become,

August 8, 1655.

Sir, your most humble servant,

WILLIAM PETRE.

Col.

Col. Bampfylde to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
p. 346.

HAVING made severall adresses to you of late at Whitehall, and through the importance of your business (as I suppose, not having, to the best of my understanding, ever given you the least cause of dissatisfaction) hitherto not having received the honour of any returne, being my selfe passing this way towards a friend's house neer Maydston, where I may remaine for a day or tow, I have by this bearer given you the trouble of this letter, to advertise you, that immediately upon my returne to London, I intend for France, in order to the prosecution of those directions, which I received from you three months since; the business in it selfe being as practicable now, as it was then (if not more soe) if the success of it may be as usefull to the present condition of your affaires. Soe as though I am resolved unalterably upon the journey, some tyme the next weeke, unless you countermande it, yet the grounds I proposed to my selfe at firste, being then not upon soe great certainty as they are now, I am extremely confident it may be very avaylable to your service, if I may have halfe an hower's liberty of discourse with you, before my departure, both to acquainte you with some passages come to my knowledge since I sawe you, and to be directed by you in such particulars, as may render my endeavours very serviceable to you in this conjuncture; soe as if you are either pleased to give mee leave to wayte on you at your lodgings in Whitehall any tyme the next weeke in the evening, I shall not fayle to attend you; or if you woulde be pleased to doe mee the honoure to take a peice of venison at my lodgings (which are both very neer you, and as private) any day you thinke fit; and to bring whome you please with you, you woulde very highly oblige mee, and might conveniently dispatch mee. All the encouragement I have to hope for this favoure is, that you have your selfe motioned tow or three tymes our dining in Fish-street upon another occasion; and I thinke this being much neerer you, and more private, will be more proper to the business, and a less expence of your tyme. Though I shall looke upon this as an extraordinary great favoure, and doe hartily request it, yet I shall leave my selfe to your pleasure and occasions, being,

Branforde, saturday night.

Sir, your moste humble

and most faithfull servant,

J. B.

The superscription,

*To the right honourable mr. secretary Thurloe,
principal secretary of state at Hampton-
court, these.*

General Monck to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURED SIR,

Vol. xxix.
p. 164.

HEERE is a Scotche gentleman, who has bin a lieutenant collonell in the Scotche army against us (and is much knowne and well esteemed by that partie, they not having the least suspition of him) but would now endeavour to bee serviceable to us, which I think he may very well bee. If you want one to be sent to the Scotche pretended K. his court, to waite till some one be sent from thence for England or Scotland, and to come over with Charles Stuart's messenger, this gentleman wil bee very fit for it, because he may know of the messenger's coming, and will bee carefull to keep soe close with him, as to have him secur'd on his landing, and he is one that you may trust. In case there wants one for this purpose, I desire you would lett me knowe it by the next post, and I shall send him to you. I remaine,

Dalkeith, August 9,
1655.

Sir, your most affectionate

and humble servant,

GEORGE MONCK.

This gentleman is very great with Charles Stuart,
and wil bee very farr trusted by him.

At the council at Whitehall.

Thursday, August 9, 1655.

Ordered by his highness the lord protector and the council, that the yearly salary payable to the clerk of his highness's council for Scotland, be three hundred pounds. And it is referred to the council for Scotland, to give warrant from time to time for payment thereof out of the publick revenue of Scotland.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
p. 170.

Ordered by his highness the lord protector and the council, that the yearly salary payable to the assistant of the clerk of his highness's council in Scotland, be two hundred pounds. And it is referred to the said council for Scotland, to give warrant from time to time for payment thereof out of the revenue of Scotland.

Ordered by his highness the lord protector and the council, that the clerk of his highness's council for Scotland, as also his assistant, do take no other fees than the settled salaries appointed to those places respectively.

W. JESSOP, clerk of the council.

At the council at Whitehall.

Thursday, August 9, 1655.

Ordered by his highness the lord protector and the council, that the militia forces in the counties of Kent and Surry be under the command of colonel Kelsey.

Vol. xxix.
p. 182.

That the militia forces in the counties of Southampton, Suffex, and Berks, be under the command of colonel Goffe.

That the militia forces in the counties of Northampton, Rutland, Huntingdon, and Bedford, be under the command of major Butler.

That the militia forces in the counties of Lincoln, Nottingham, Stafford, Leicester, Warwick, be under the command of commissary general Whalley.

That the militia forces in the counties of North-Wales, South-Wales, Hereford, and Salop, be under the command of colonel Berry.

That Yorkshire, Lancashire, and the counties of Durham, Westmoreland, Cumberland, and Northumberland, be in one association.

That this association be under the command of the lord Lambert.

That the militia forces in the counties of Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Wilts, and Gloucester, be under the command of general Disbrowe.

That the militia forces in the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Hertford, Cambridge, and the isle of Ely, Oxford, and Buckingham, be under the command of the lord deputy of Ireland.

That the militia forces in the counties of Derby, Chester, and Worcester, be under the command of colonel Worfeley.

That the militia forces in the county of Middlesex and city of London be under the command of major general Skippon.

HENRY SCOBELL, clerk of the council.

The examination of Alexander Lancton, of the city of Chester, taken August 9, 1655.

THE informant saith, that in the beginning of March last mr. William Rainscraft, of Hardin in Flintshire, and John Lingley of Chester aforesaid, came to this informant's house, and told him, that there was an intention to take Chester castle; and that another time in the same month this informant accidentally met with the two persons aforesaid, and one captain Francis Pickering of the Holt in the county of Denbigh, at the house of widow Throps in Chester, where mr. Rainscraft bid this informant go see, whether there was not a centinel upon a turret of the castle aforesaid, which he did accordingly, and returning from thence told Rainscraft there was a centinel there; whereupon this informant saith, all the persons aforesaid told him, that all the country would be up, and the aforesaid castle would be taken shortly by their party (meaning, as this deponent conceiveth, Charles Stuart's party) and also saith, that they enjoined him to secrecy in the business. And further that he knows not, neither heard any of the aforesaid persons declare, who were to be the principal actors in the aforesaid design, nor any thing at all further concerning it; but saith, that he intended suddenly to have declared it publickly, but was prevented by the discovery thereof.

ALEXANDER A. L. LANCTON, his mark.

VOL. III.

8 Q

Mr.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
p. 202.

IT is advys'd from Tollon, that the French fleet is redy to sail, consisting of 24 ships, and 6 fyre ships, but they ar deteyn'd for want of mariners: both the duk Vandom and his son imbarke upon them; 'tis believ'd they go for Cattalonia. The Spanish armado, about 22 ships, and 7 gallys, continue at Porto Spetie, within a dozen legues of this place in the state of Genoa; somtymes they ar at an ankor, and somtymes under sail, turning to and fro. Yesterday a small English ship coming from Genoa fel amongst them, and this day she arryv'd here. They askt where general Blak was, and told her they know the English wer theyr enemyes. It seems the Spanyard has several desygnes in his lying ther with his fleet, and doing nothing, not having yet put a man ashore. He pretends when the 2000 horse arriv from Naples, who ten dayes ago wer embarking, he wil then land his men, and fal into the duk of Modena's countrey, to draw away his forces from succouring the French in Millan. Another desyn is to face the French fleet, lest they should com and land more soldiars at the said port Spetie; but 'tis suppos'd theyr chief aym is to ly there, and contenance theyr forces in Millan, that therby they may shew themselves in the field, and so possibly rais the seige of Pavia, wher 'tis said the French hav taken som out-works. Prince Tomafo and 4 more of the chief commanders ar Itallians, who really hate the French, and so the Spanyard knowes, who 'tis suppos'd with som thousands of Spanish pistols may send them back into Savoy, and then the whole Spanish fleet wil away for Cattalonia, wher they ar in extream want of succor, inso-much that it is much douted Barfalona wil be lost, if succour be not sent. Our nation, that resyd in the Spanish dominions, do believ, they wil tak no notis of what general Pen's fleet does in the West Indyas. You wil se notwithstanding what is in theyr hart by the Roman newes, if they had power to vent it. The Tripoly ships of war are lyk to do our nation much hurt, except restrained, or a peace made with them, which I hear they ar inclynable unto, if but a couple of frigats appear'd ther. I am,

Right honorable,

Leghorn, August 20, 1655. [N. S.]

Your most faithful servant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

Thomas Bourne to secretary Thurloe.

Vol. xxix.
p. 208.

I Received yours by mr. Houlden, and accordingly this morning I have sent a parte to Droytewich, to see if they can seaze the parson of that Cowley. The berer hereof captain Crefwick will give you summe accompt of the buisnes. In case they mis of him, I will send agane, that am

Yours freind and servant,

August 10, 1655.

THOMAS BOURNE,

From my quarters at the white Harte
in Shrewsbury.

A Letter of intelligence from the Hague.

Ce 14^{me} d'Aoust, [1655.]

Vol. xxix.
p. 190.

CEUX de Hollande ont proposé dans les estats generaux, qu'ils ont reduit leur interests de cinq a quatre, avec quoy ils gaigneront quatorze cent mille francs par an. Et pourtant ils ont requis, qu'on veuille aussy reduire les interests de la generalité, & des admirautés.

Ils ont aussy proposé, qu'il sera bon de rechater diverses seigneuries dans la Meyerye de Boisseduc & certaines rentes, &c. pour contenter les pauvres gens, qui ont esté au Brasil.

De la deputation vers Dennemarck on ne parle plus, sur l'avis, que ce roy ne monstre encore nulle inclination de s'engager contre le Sweede.

De

De l'instruction pour l'employ de la flotte vers le Oresundt l'on parlera, quand le sieur d'Obdam sera arrivé. Je suis d'avis, que le sieur d'Obdam sera plus sage que le feu Tromp; qui par son imprudence engagea l'estat en une si funeste & ruineuse guerre; a savoir celle d'Angleterre. A. D. 1655.

August 17.

Hier aura esté avis, que les François ou tel de leurs généraux auroit aussy sommé le pais d'Outremeuse comme possidé & pretendu par le roy de Spaigne leur ennemy; pourtant en exigeant des contributions. Sur cela on viendra en conférence avec l'ambassadeur de France. Au reste on voudroit bien, que cest affaire du pais de Outremeuse se put vuidier par accord.

Les sieurs Barendrecht & Vrybergh ont fait rapport d'avoir notifié aux ministres de Dennemarck l'equipage des 24 navires resolu icy, pour envoyer ver le Sont: & qu'ils avoient tasché de tirer de ces ministres l'inclination de son roy & sa resolution touchant les armes Swedoises: mais les dits ministres n'avoient rien sçeu dire, si non qu'ils n'en favoient rien.

L'on a hier tenu besoigne sur les instructions a donner, l'une pour la deputation a faire en Dennemarck; l'autre pour l'admiral Opdam sur l'employ de la flotte des 24 navires.

L'on a derechef eu sur le tapis le fournissement d'argent pour le voyage du sieur Ommeren vers Savoye. Et puisqu'il est de Geldre, l'ordre est, qu'il soit pourveu d'argent de sa province, qui est Geldre, mais sa province est tellement en desordre, qu'elle ne sauroit pas fournir tant d'argent. Et sans cela le sieur Ommeren ne veut pas aller. Et les ministres commencent a le recommander, comme estant un oeuvre pieux, pour le bien de Vaudois.

Aussy a esté sur le tapis l'envoy d'une deputation ou legation vers Dennemarck; & instruction pour telle legation. Ceux de Hollande desirent, que le sieur Beuningen seul y aille. Mais il y a d'autres provinces, qui veulent aussy avoir part a la legation. Aussy on est encore discrepant, dans l'instruction: aussy les provinces, qui sont entre l'Eems & le Rhyn, sont encore irresolues pour l'employ de la flotte, craignant la guerre par terre.

Il y a advis que le roy de Sweede a demandé de l'electeur de Brandenborck les places ou fortresses de Pillauw & de Memel pour assurance: ce qu'ayant refusé, il y auroit desja rupture entre le roy & le dit electeur. Tant y a que le conte de Waldeck & le baron de Sweryn sont party de Stetyn mal satisfaits.

August 18.

Des Bordeaux, des marchands de cest estat ont fait nouvelle plainte de depredations qui font les Biscaïn: & tel marchands a Amsterdam nommes Roymans ont demandé & supplié lettres intercessionales au roy de Spaigne, pour la relaxation de certaine, leur navires prins ou detenus en Espagne.

Derechef & principalement a esté parlé de l'affaire Baltique, de l'envoy des deputes vers le roy de Dennemarck, de l'instruction. Je remarque en tout façon, que difficilement on fera quelque chose sans le protecteur: car aussy bien on voit assez, que le roy de Dennemarck meme est froid, irresolu, & n'osant rien. Aussy Dennemarck n'est pas sans mescontents: & Ulesfelt y a ses correspondents: & le duc de Holsteyn a Gottorp souloit cy devant estre toujours fort supprimé par le roy de Dennemarck. Maintenant le dit duc estant beaupere du roy de Sweede, tiendrait infalliblement le party Swedois, ou pacifique; en cas que le roy de Dennemarck se voudroit engager in guerre: en quoy luy contrarient aussy les nobles, ne desirent pas s'appauvrir de gayeté de cœur.

De Stetyn on n'a autre, si non que le roy estoit allé avec une nouvelle armée vers la Pologne, sans savoir bonnement ou est le roy de Pologne: lequel on dit attendre secours du Grand Turq.

Maintenant il y a assemblée des estats a Utrecht: ou principalement sera ventilée l'affaire du Grefier Berck prisonier. On croit que les chanoines (faisants les premiers membres des estats) concéderont a la ville un revenu de 3 ou 4 mille francs: ou que chaque chanoine quittera quelque petite portion de leur prebende, pour l'entretien de nouvel nombre des ministres. Et qu'aincy le different se terminera, & ce Grefier sera relâché.

Maintenant aussy en fin l'on a trouvé de l'argent pour le voyage du sieur Ommeren. La province de Geldre a esté si pauvre, qu'elle n'a sçeu fournir rien.

August 19.

Vers Dort sont derechef allés deux commissaires du grand conseil, pour prendre inspection du canal, qui ne va pas bien, n'y ayant pas assez de profondeur; & le cours de l'eau n'y va pas comme il faut.

Contre le desordre a Gorcom est publié & imprimé un placard: comme aussy sur la réduction des intersts de 5 a 4.

A. D. 1655. Il est indicible combien ceux de Geldre ont flatté les autres provinces a fournir ces 5000 francs au sieur Ommeren : car le stile & coustume est, que chaque député ou ambassadeur, qu'on envoie quelque part, tire l'avancement des deniers de sa province. Mais la Geldre n'a sçu le moyen : & le sieur Ommeren n'a voulu pas estre assigné sur sa propre province : ains a fallu que la generalité luy aye fourny cela.

L'on a par une seconde lettre mandé le sieur de Opdam a venir icy.

Cependant est venu une lettre responsive du college de l'admirauté de Amsterdam, sur ce qu'on leur avoit escrit en suite de la resolution du 11^e d'Aoust (la quelle aures veu) d'equipper encore seize navires de guerre vers le Sont : que ces navires nouvellement bastys ne sont pas propres sur la mer Baltique : & qu'il en faut d'autres : & que cependant il faut du temps pour les equipper : & que la saison est allée fort avant. Ceux de Hollande ont prins cette lettre vers soy, pour l'examiner & en faire rapport.

August 20.

Quand a l'equipage des 16 navires de guerre, d'autant que l'admirauté d'Amsterdam a fait difficulté, les estats generaux ont deputés le sieur Lodesteyn vers Amsterdam, le sieur Glas vers la Northollande, le sieur Schoock vers Rotterdam : pour induire les admirautés a s'accommoder au fournissement des dits 16 navires.

Cependant demeure encore la nomination de l'ambassade vers Dennemark en surseance, comme aussy l'instruction pour icelle.

La commenderie de Geemert a esté sur le tapis : Il y a des provinces, qui sont d'opinion, qu'on doive la laisser a la collation du chapitre comme auparavant : autres la veulent confisquer comme bien d'eglise.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

MONSIEUR,

Vol. xxix.
p. 198.

L'ON s'alambique icy a present fort la teste & l'esprit pour 160. le East Sea estats de Holland
 179, & les 145 en faveur de 142, de 148, & de 170 font Ceux de 105 pour
 179, & les 145 en faveur de 142, de 148, & de 170 font Denmark le prince d'Orange Brandenburg
 fort soigneux : & maintenant estant question d'un envoy de 124 & de 134 vers
 Denmark le Sondt D e f t r u c t i
 142 165 l'on scrupulis & se tourmente fort pour 28. 32. 95. 38. 66. 39. 22. 38. 28.
 o n ambassadeurs navires de guerre estats generaux
 33. 32. tant pour le 124 que pour les 134. Cependant tout le dessein de 104 est
 Denmark alliance Swede les deux Prussies
 de faire aveq 142, une nouvelle 155, & d'empescher le 141, de devenir fort en 176. 177.
 ambassadeurs cavalleries
 & cela est l'ame, la substance, & le contenu du reiglement qu'aura le 124 & les 134.
 Amsterdam
 Pour parler sans passion, ce n'est que la variabilité & insatiabilité de 112. Car quand
 Suede East Sea
 bien le 141 gagne tout ce qu'il y a sur le 160, ce ne fera pas encore egalité contre
 Denmark l'East Sea Sondt Denmark
 142, car il faut que tout ce qui est dans 160, forte par le 165 & a 142 il est beau-
 Sondt Amsterdam
 coup plus aisé de garder & ferrer le 165. Si donq les 112 cherchoient une vraye egalité
 le Suede Denmark Suede le East Sea
 entre 141 & 142, ils devoient ayder le 141 a gagner le reste de 160 : car alors les
 Suedes Danois estats d'Amsterdam protecteur
 141 & 142 feroient vrayement egaux : & les 112 (comme aussy le 130) fauroient
 aveq peu de peine faire aller la ballance de tel costé qu'ils voudroient. Or faut noter,
 le Suede deux Prussies
 quand bien 141 gagne les 176, 177, il y a encore divers, qui possèdent leurs terres sur
 East Sea l'empereur Polonois
 le 160 : ovire le puissant & redoutable 143 meme : le quel avec le 175 estants d'autre
 J e f u i t e s Amsterdam Cromw.
 religion, voire fort gouvernes par 28. 82. 37. 79. 58. 68. 82. 37. tant 112 que 130
 & autres protestants peuvent bien considerer le peu de faveur & benefice, qu'ils peuvent
 attendre

le Swede Poland estates generaux estats d'Holland A. D. 1655.
 attendre de 141 & de 175. Comme pour cette consideration les 104 & 105
 Suedes Amsterdam
 ont tousjours favorisé & aidé les 141, depuis tant d'annees. Mais a present les 112 de
 Cromwell commerce l'East Sea
 pure jalousie, que 130 ne tire quelque avantage ou quelque plus de 179 sur 160: en
 Amsterdam Cromwell les villes Hanfatiques
 un mot 112 veulent avoir tout; & ne peuvent voir de bon oeil, que 130 ou 156
 Amsterdam
 ayent aussy quelque chose, & 112 aussy *laborant contra propria commoda*: car ils arment
 partisans d'Orange
 & rendent puissant ceux, qu'ils savent estre grand 145 & 146, & qui veulent mal
 les bonnes Hollandois Cromwell Amsterdam
 de mort a 173, comme aussy a 130, dont neantmoins 112 recoivent tout appuy, faveur,
 Amsterdam Cromwell
 & benignté. Quell' autre chose, que 112 veulent faire a croire a 130, ce ne sont que
 Amsterdam
 faux pretextes. La vraye cause de leur jalousie est, que 112 sont insatiables; & craignants,
 le Suede traffique Cromwell les villes Hanfatiques
 que 141 veuille procurer aussy quelque part du 179 a 130 & 156.
 Je suis

Vostre tres humble serviteur.

Le 20 Aug. [1655. N. S.]

Mr. W. Cooper to *secretary* Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

I SEND you here inclosed a superscription of your letters from my brother le Maire, Vol. xxix.
 when you please to write unto him, which I could wish you would doe sometimes, p. 212.
 that he may see his letters are received, and his indeavours accepted by you. He desires
 you would signify some other person or name to direct his letters to in the superscription,
 because your name being known, some seeing it may take occasion of seizing or opening
 his letters to you upon that account, when they have opportunity soe to do, as sometimes
 they have. I have noe more, but onely craving leave to minde you of that petition,
 which was presented to you by alderman Searl, mr. Heycocks, and other honest men of
 the burrough of Southwark, relating to their adventure for Ireland, wherein they are
 disappointed, and none but his highnes can relieve them: their solicitor waites at your
 dore, and they have bene often here in person. The concernments of very many in the
 burrough are in it, and the faith and honor of this state is greatly interested in it: I am
 sure it will oblige and incourage many to adhere to his highnes in that ticklish place. I
 have noe further then desiring the Lord to be your sun and shield, to rest

Your honor's humble servant,

August 10, 1655.

WM. COOPER.

To his loving friend mr. Jacob le Maire, at his house
 at the corner of Gerbrant straetie. Give this in
 the Hague.

Op de groen mercht op het boeckie vant Gerbrunts
 straetie.

Several prisoners in the Gatehouse to *secretary* Thurloe..

RIGHT HONORABLE,

WE have used all our indeavours to present to his highness our sad conditions, hav- Vol. xxix.
 ing been above eight weeks prisoners in the Gatehouse, by which restraint we p. 218.
 have been and are many of us in great danger of our lives. We do humbly conceive,
 we are not guilty of any disobedience to his highness, to whom we are many ways ob-
 liged. We have at last, upon the confidence of your favour, addressed the petition to

VOL. III.

8 R

your

A. D. 1655. your honor, which we humbly pray you to present to his highness, that according to his clemency we may be delivered from this noisom place to follow our occasions, which lye bleeding in our absence. This favour will eternally oblige

The Gatehouse, August
10, 1655.

Your honour's humble servants,

John Syors, Walter Kirkham.
Robert Kirkham, Thomas Stiles.
Edward Woodforde,

Docquets of Warrants.

Augusti 10, 1655.

Vol. xxix.
p. 222.

A Warrant to the exchequer for payment of 2000 l. upon accompt unto Walter Frost, esq; treasurer for the contingent monies of his highness's council. Subscribed by his command, signified by mr. secretary Thurloe.

A like to pay unto William Smithsby, esq; keeper of the standing wardrobe and privy lodgings at Hampton Court, 103 l. 3 s. 4 d. for his salary of 51 l. 11 s. 8 d. per ann. for two years, ended the 25th of March last; and from thenceforth to continue the payment thereof unto him quarterly, by equal portions. Subscribed upon signification ut supra.

A like to pay unto Richard Forebench, post-master of Southwark, for himself and the rest of the post-masters on the Kentish road, the sum of 358 l. 1 s. for his salary, for carrying the states packets for one year and a quarter, ended at Michaelmas last. Subscribed upon signification ut supra.

P. SMITHSBY.

Servien to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Pignerol the 21 August, 1655. [1655.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxix.
p. 224.

THE accommodation of those of the pretended reformed religion of the Vallies of Piedmont hath been concluded and signed at the time appointed this week by my lord the duke of Savoy, and by those likewise, and registered by the sovereign courts, whereof having given you good hope in my last letter, you will not be deceived. God be thanked, the conditions thereof are very favourable and advantageous for them, and his royal highness was willing to have it agreed after that manner, to declare his willingness to be so much the greater to favour his majesty therein, who had desired it of him, and in whose behalf I did still make continual instances to his royal highness in pursuance of those reiterated commands, which I received from his majesty, and to let his royal highness understand, that his majesty did it to oblige the lord protector, who had taken this business to heart. The siege of Pavia doth advance very much. I hope his majesty will be master thereof very suddenly.

Col. Mackworth to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxix.
p. 228.

I HAVE now (accordinge to your highnesse's order) sent up sir Thomas Harries. As concerning Eyton, his great confident, sir John Reighnolds hath formerly acquainted mr. secretary with the manner of his escape, which happned through the negligence of the marshal, who had orders from sir John and my selfe to secure him by double bolts upon his leggs; but he puttinge only one bolt on, the prisoner, by tyinge two sheets together, made shift to escape out of his chamber window. I count it no small part of my unhappines, that such an accident should be, in regard of the true zeale and affection, which I beare to your highnesse's service, and which I shall ever manifest upon all occasions to the utmost of the endeavour, accordinge to the great obligations, which your highnes hath been so graciously pleased to lay upon my selfe and family. So prayinge for a continuation of all health and happines to your highnes, I in all sincerity remaine

Shrewsbury, Aug. 11, 1655. Your highnesse's most humble and faithful servants,

HUMFREY MACKWORTH.
Thomas

JOHN THURLOE ESQ. &c.

707

Thomas Bourne to *secretary* Thurloe.

SIR,

SINCE my partie went away, I have certen information, that mr. William Cowley is gon to London, but to what plas they cannot tell. It may be the corporall, who cumes allong with fir Thomas Harries, may give you further of him. I am

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
p. 232.

Shrewsbury, August 11, 1655.

Your frend and servant,

THOMAS BOURNE.

Col. Alured to *secretary* Thurloe.

HONORED SIR,

YOUR greate sevillity to my wife, in presenting her petition to his highnesse, hath imbouldened me to make this my adrese to you, to let you know, I spoake with his highnesse one fryday was seavennight : he was then upon goeing to Hamton Courte, but commanded me to wayte upon him the munday following, which accordingly I did, and allmost every day the last weeke, but his more weighty affayres prevented me from getting audiance. Now my humble request to your honour is, (if I may not too much intrench upon your goodnesse) that you would acquaint his highnesse therewith, that if he please to speake with me, that he would appoynt me a time ; not that I thinke much to attend still, but that I am not at my owne disposall, soe cannot doe it singly. Sir, I have had above tenn monthes tedious imprisonment, which, I hope, will now pleade my excuse of this truble. If you please to returne me his highnesse answer, it will be an obligation put upon,

Vol. xxix.
p. 248.

Mewes, August 13, 1655.

Worthy sir,

your friend to serve you,

MATH. ALURED;

Serjeant Dendy to *secretary* Thurloe.

RIGHT HONNOURABLE,

ABOUT 5 monthes since you were pleased to promisse me your favour to move his highnesse to passe my conveyance of lands in Ireland under the broad seale, for want of which I am like to be throwen out of pofession by some of the adventurers, though I have had pofession above 12 monthes ; and this though there be lands enough in the same barony to satisfy all those, who have their lotts there. Wherefore having received a letter since my wife attended upon your honour, which tells me, how the adventurers threaten me, though I have as good right to hold myne from the commissioners conveyance as any other ; I therefore humbly beseech your honour to move his highnesse, that he will be pleased to graunt his royall assent for the passing of the said lands to me under his highnesse broad seale, which will for ever obleige

Vol. xxix.
p. 272.

August 14, 1655.

Your honor's most humble servant,

E. DENDY.

I had the commissioners order for theise lands, longe before any lott was drawne for them in that barony.

A letter of intelligence.

From the margrave of Brandenburg, of the $\frac{14}{24}$ August, 1655.

THE Swedes do still stand firm upon their resolutions, not only to have both the sea-ports, Pillauw and Memmel, but likewise to have a free passage through Driesen and Lansbergh.

Vol. xxix.
p. 252.

A. D. 1655. The royal part of Lithuania, as also both the princes Radzivill, finding themselves wholly deserted, have surrendered themselves to the Swedes devotion.

The Swedes under the command of count Magnus de la Garde have taken in the city Mittau in Courland, and have demanded 300,000 rix dollers contribution of the country round about, besides quartering for their soldiers.

The Swedes under count Magnus de la Garde are within three miles of the Memmel. Whether they will besiege the same, is not yet known.

Extract out of a private letter of the 14 Aug. 1655.

Vol. xxix.
p. 260.

SWEDEN will have in effect every thing from Brandenburg, and will not suffer the alliance with the state. What now is to be chosen, is the main point in hand. If so be that Brandenburg should fall out with Sweden, the assistance of the states is lookt upon as of no great consequence; and if he conclude with Sweden, then he must desert his friends and his own.

The lord of Schieverin is come back from the king of Sweden, bringing with him the conditions unconcluded; but the king sends Schlippenbach after to treat further. The duke of Brandenburg will hardly go from the alliance made with the states: the issue time will demonstrate.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg, to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

Vol. xxix.
p. 432.

I HAVE received your letter of the 3 instant, and delivered the enclosed to mr. Rolt, whoe arrived here on thursday last, God haveinge beene very gracious in preserving them beyond what could be imagined, of which I presume hee will give you a particular accompt. The fregat having lost all her cables and anchors save one, the captaine desired me to supply him here, which I have done, and he is returned to the ship with 3 new cables and 2 anckers, haveinge good pilots with him to get her out to sea, where I hope she is by this tyme. By the next post I shall give you an accompt of the charge, and drawe my bills for it, as I should have done to furnish mr. Rolt the needfull, had you beene pleased soe to order it, with whom I shall hold correspondence whilst he is in theise parts, and in all things be serviceable to him, as he shall have occasion to use me, beinge very desirous of any opportunity to serve his highness in those that relate to him. I am glad the Swedish ambassador is like to prove soe good an instrument for the continueinge of the begun amitie and confidence twixt his highness and the kinge his master. The enclosed paper shewes you what can here be knowne of the further motions of the Swedish armie. I am forie you have yet noe letters from the West India fleete, fearinge it may goe ill with them for want of supplies. I perceive the company had been to attend his highness with the letter from hence, but found him not at leasure. It seemes they are very forward in countenanceinge that partie. I hope your next will acquaint mee with the resolution of his highness and his counsell in that busines, that I may trouble you noe further with it. Townley and his partie here (whoe call themselves the company) have been very forward at the company's charge in their respects to mr. Rolt, to engage him, if they could; but I presume he will not give them any recommendation. The well affected have not beene wanting in their more reall respects to him, whoe departs to morrow on his journey to find out the kinge of Sweden. Referinge you to the enclosed paper, I affectionatly remaine,

Sir, your very humble servant,

Hamb. August 14, 1655,

RICHARD BRADSHAW.

Major Rolt, envoy to Sweden, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxix.
p. 256.

I Received yours of the 3d on the 10th day of this instant August, and therein a particular of the occurrences, which have happened since my departure from you, for which I retourne most humble thanks, not forgetting the high obligations you are pleas'd to put upon me by your hearty and affectionat well wishes towards mee in the fasty and prosperity

prosperity of my journey; wherein be pleased farther to know, that after our going on A. D. 1655th shippboard, which was on the first instant in the evening, wee sett saile out of the Downes, and in order to his highnesse commands one friday morning we sett my uncle collonel Cromwell on shoare at Schiveling neere the Hague, which gave us great hinderance in our journey, being forced, lest wee should have indangered our selves by coming on shoare on the coast of Holland in the night, to drive twelve howers without making any saile. On friday the Lord was pleased to give us faire weather, but a very strong gale of winde all the day, and soe it continued till eleven of the clock at night, at which time it began to be very tempestuous with great gustes of winde, and a driveing misty raine. All the night we drove without making one knott of saile, expecting every hower, that the north west wind (which we had all our voyage till we came to Hamborough with much violence) should have driven us on the coast of Friezeland or Emden, to which we knew not how neere we were, for the strenght of the storme had made the marriners loose themselves, there compasse and glasse being become altogether uselesse. In this exigence the captain of the ship, whose care and abilitie I cannot sufficiently commend, lett fall an anchor, indeavouring to have rid out the storme; but the tackling being not proved in such weather, quickly failed his and our expectation, for the cable broke, the storme in the latter part of the night still increasng, wherupon the captain commanded another anchor to be put out, wherein lay our last hope that way, but that allsoe quickly deceived our intentions, for the streffe of wind was such, and the sea did runne so high, that the cable began to give way, and (to agravate our distressed condition almost to despaire) the ship through the extremity of weather we feared would have foundered under us, which had she not been very strong must certainly have come to passe. Therfore the captain to ease the ships riding at this second anchor (which was all we had but one small one, to which we durst not trust) caused the maine mast and the foretopp mast to be cut down, and foure gunns uppon the upper decke to be throwne over board, which last was performed with soe much danger and difficulty, as proved the strongest occasion of saving the rest, which otherwise undoubtedly must have run the same fortune. About a quarter of an hower after the losse of our masts, this second anchor began to come home, which was about six of the clock on saterday in the morning. All that day we drove, expecting every minute ether to be swallowed by the waves, or to be splitt uppon the sands, where we must have all necessarily perished in this deplorable and sad condition, expecting death uppon our knees, the Lord being not pleased, that any thing by our owne endeavours should contribute towards our safty, that he alone should have the glory of soe wonderfull a deliverance, which is justly due unto his name, in the midst of judgment remembring mercy, was pleased somewhat to abate the storme one the Lord's day in the morning, and the weather to cleare up. Therfore taking hold of that, though almost hopelesse occasion, we resolved to make for land, whilst it was day (a course in all humane probability very neere as desperate as our danger) such sails as we had left we gott to the yards, and followed a ship of small burthen, which we discovered at a distance, supposing she had made land; and after two howers saile we found ourselves by sounding to be in the bay of the river of Elve, which much rejoyced our drooping spirits, hoping there to find some means wherby to save our persons, though not our shipp, if wee could gett in; but the Lord was pleased to doe for us, better then we were able to wish to ourselves; for had we gott in, being without sufficient tackle to ride with in soe shoale, rapide, and rough a river, we had without question been cast awaie; but by God's gracious direction and providence, though ignorantly in respect of ourselves, we were driven into a sandy harbor, where we cast our small anchor (and the only one we had) about 3 of the clock in the afternoone on the Lord's day, and there roade till tuesday towards the evening, when we quitted our weather beaten shipp; and for our better expedition in our journey, we hired a small Dutch hoy up to Hamborough, at which we arrived on the 9th instant about six of the clock in the morning; where at present we doe, and shall, for the better refreshing of our tired bodies, and wearied spirits, stay till to morrow morning, intending then to sett forwards towards Stetin. Only give me leave to tell your honor, that during my abroad heere, I have received many civilities and expressions of kindnesse from the resident and the English company of marchants, being by them speedily after my arrivall invited and brought by coach to the English house, where I have ever since beene courteously accommodated. Uppon saterday last mr. Peterfon, late resident for this state to his highnesse, was sent by the burgomasters of the towne with very ample expression of their affection and service to his highnesse and the commonwealth of England. I was according to the custome there presented with a vessell of Renish wine, which I beseech your honour to accept from mee, as a poore but hearty acknowledgement of those strong obligations of service and respect, which the manyfould expressions of your love and favour towards me, have continually put upon me. The care of safe conveyance the resident heere hath beene pleased to take uppon himselfe, and therefore I doe not doubt you may certainly expect to receive it by the first English ship.

A. D. 1655. Presently after my comming to shoare, hearing of one Mr. Muller, resident for the crowne of Sweden in this place, I sent unto him my secretary, with my service, to lett him know, that I was a person sent by his highnesse to the king of Sweden his master; and withall did desire such information and direction from him, as might put mee in the best and reddiest waie for the dispatch of my journey to him; in order whereunto he gave me a visting this morning, and withall tould me, that his master departed from Stetin to Dam fourteen days since, but where he is at present he could give noe farther certaine account; but believes he still marches onwards into Poland, and that we shall not be able to overtake him till we find him before Warzow, which promises to surrender to him. There is noe farther news heere, but the discours of Swedish successe, which puts these parts to the gaze. The particulars I am not able to write, being grounded uppon such uncertaine and contrarious reports. By the next I hope I shall be more able to give you a fuller and more perfect account. Thus having, I feare, tired out your patience by a tedious discours, I am bound to take my leave, humbly begging you to reade and beleieve, what I really am,

Your most faithfull

Hamborough, August 14,
1655, S. V.

and most obliged servant,

E. ROLT.

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxix.
p. 282.

I Should acquaint you with the persons ordered to be disbanded, but that my time is short, and I presume my brother Cromwell will give a more full account; only this at present, we disbanded 36 companies of foot, by reducing coll. Hubbard, coll. Clarke, and coll. Axtell's regiments, with some loose companies; only coll. Clarke is to have a standing regiment of the remaining army. Coll. Axtell will be continued in a more inferior commande. The horse to be disbanded are, 4 troopes of late lieutenant generall Ludlowe's regiment, sir Theo. Jones, and Ma. Meridith's being continued, 5 troopes of sir Charles Coote's regiment, and capt. Barington's troope of my brother Cromwell's regiment, one troop of Abbott's, and 5 troopes of dragoones of coll. Ingoldsbys's regiment, himselfe to have a regiment of foote. We shall, I hope, bring the establishment within 28,000l. per menssem; which abates of what it is at present, about 17,000l. per menssem. I must needs sollicite for the addition of 1000l. more for to answer the charge of Ireland. Excuse this rude account. My haste is great, who am

August 14, 1655.

Your humble servant,

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

My brother Cromwell will send you the list of whom shall be disbanded, both horse and foote.

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxix.
p. 286.

WE are put to a great straight, not knowing well what to doe, being not able to continue the present army, as now it is, and yet to reduce them is that, which (untill our forces come out of England) may prove very hazardous; yet the necessitie wee are in for want of money put us on a resolution to lessen our charge by a speedy disbanning, which will force our men to extraordinary dutie, not long to be continued. And therefore I shall desire you will move his highnes for the immediate sending away of our troopes and companies now in England; otherwise there may be greater inconveniencies follow this worke of reducing, then is at present understood. I hope it will appeare, that there hath bine a due regard had to continue such as may manifest there constant faithfullnes to his highnes. If there be a resolution to send any of the reduced men from hence to generall Venables, it had bine happy, if wee had received therein at there sitting downe, because otherwise I doubt it will prove more difficult. I should be glad to understand, whether there be any resolution taken up, for the disposall of the money, which is to be gathered heere for the Waldenses. I wish that delays in that busines doth not occasion the cooling of men's affections towards them. If some way might be thought upon, to improve the collections, which have bine made for them, to bring them hither to plant, I think it might be well. Certainly that blood God will avenge. I shall not further trouble you, then with subscribing, what I am,

Your affectionate freind and humble servant,

August 14, 55.

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

Secretary

Secretary Thurloe to H. Cromwell, major general of the army in Ireland.

MY LORD,

I Received your lordship's by the last; and to what concerns the sending back the forces that are here, orders are already given to the horse to returne: four troops goe out of Scotland, and two from hence. It is also resolved, that the foot shall be sent back; but they will be kept, untill a regiment of foot can come out of Scotland. This is all I have to trouble your lordship with, this week having administred no news at all. I beseech your lordship to excuse me to my lord deputy, for not writing to him. I have nothing worth his trouble. I remaine

A. D. 1655
In the possession of Joseph Jekyll, Esq.

Your lordship's most humble and faithfull servant,

Aug. 14, 1655.

JO. THURLOE.

DOCQUETS.

14 die Augusti, 1655.

A Commission, whereby his highness doth constitute general Monck, Roger lord Broghill, Charles Howard, esq; and others, to be of his council in Scotland, for executing such instructions, as they shall receive from him and his council; and is to continue in force until the 24th of June 1658, and no longer. Subscribed by mr. attorney general, by warrant under his highness's sign manual.

Vol. xxix.
p. 276.

per SMITHSBY.

A warrant to the exchequer to pay unto the present treasurer at war 4000 l. upon account, for the use of his army, for paying of the forces in England and Wales, that are to be reduced, by virtue of the establishment for the army lately passed by his highness and council. Subscribed upon signification of his highness's pleasure mr. by secretary.

per SMITHSBY.

Mr. William Prideaux to the protector.

[Mosco, Aug. 15, 1655.]

MAYE IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

IT was your pleasure to approve of the election the Russia company of merchants made of mee, to carrie your highnesse letter to that emperor Alexea Michahlouich, which I delivered into his majestie's owne hands (the company had little hope of it, when I departed England) and from whome I have now returned to your heighnesse, with his answer received from himselfe. Now as it is my duty with the delevry of it to give your highnesse an account of my negociations and transacciones in that imployment, I doe here with all humillity remonstrate to your highnesse the sequell.

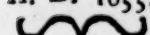
Vol. xxix.
p. 358.

By my severall letters written to mr. secretary of state Thurloe from Archangell, the 25th August to the 16th September; from the citty Vollogda, the 16th December; from Mosco, the 24th February, 3d and 17th March, 1654. 28th ditto, 18th Aprill, primo Maye, and seacond July, and agayne from Archangell the 8th August, and fiveth September last, I did in them narrate what to that tyme had occurred; but some particulars not written of in those letters, I thinke, is not impertinent here to give your highnesse recognizance of them.

I was demanded by the chancellor of the embassy office at Mosco, Almaze Iuanuich, why your highnesse letter to the emperor was not sealed with our commonwealth's great seale; to which I answered, that it was not your highnesse custome, in your missives to princes, to seale your letters with any other then is yours to the emperor. That the commonwealth's great seale is only used in publike contracts with forreyne princes and republicks, or such like; and on letters patents, and such writings made within the commonwealth; whereunto the lord chancellor did set his firme.

The emperor is now in the 26th yeere of his age: he is of a just stature, somewhat grosse of bodye, browne haire, and of a good complexion, rather inclining to alacrity then saturne; and sayed it is, that once hee was of a good naturall disposition, but corrupted by his education (Borris Iuanuich Morosone, that is now his brother-in-law (they have married two sisters) was his tutor) and now much given to avarice, cruelty, self-willnesse, and esteeming much more of himselfe then is in him.

The

A. D. 1655.  The emperatrice is daughter to Ellia Danelleuich Milofstansko, a man of a base and meane heart, and soe are his conditions; averse to strangers, and in particular to Englishe. His wyfe is a crafty and understanding woman, whoe hath great power and credit with the emperor, and her voice in the present government of the empire, of which shee maketh good use for her owne ends and interest.

That majesty hath on only sonne, that was boren in December, 1653; two daughters, the youngest boren in January last. Hee hath three sisters, all unmarried; the eldest was promised to duke Wolmer of Denmarke, by the emperor Michael Phedorovich, her father; and all things being concluded for that marriage, the prince went to that court for the effecting of it; at which tyme queen Christian of Sweden (and that crowne) not willing to have that match concluded, commanded her resident, then at the Rushe court, to hinder it, if possibly hee could; which hee did, by privately assuring some noblemen, Ruffes, that that prince was a spurious borren. Soe, to avoyd the effecting of that marriage, the nobles and clergy tooke pretext, that they would have Wolmer to turne to the Greeke faith (it was agreed and concluded, 'twixt the emperor and Denmarke, that duke Wolmer and his people might keepe their owne religion, and the prince her's) which hee would not doe. Wherefor the emperor, persisting to keepe his promise of what was agreed on, was cause (as it is sayed) that both hee and the emperatrice were by their clergy and nobles made away with by poyson; and after their deaths the Denmarke prince was for some tyme kept prisoner; but in the end sett at liberty, and permitted to departe for his owne country. It is now sayed, that that prince shall marry a Tarter prince turned to the Russe religion, whoe at present is at the emperor's court, and entertayned by him.

The present patriarch of Russia is of yeeres about fivety five, a boores sonne, of little or no literature (an enemye to strangers) notwithstanding hee hath past by all inferiour dignities of that church, and had the patriarchshipp by lott; but before hee would accept of it, and bee consecrated, hee had the emperor to sweare not to contradict him in any thing; soe that that man maye truly saye, that as well out of his church, as in it, hee hath more authority then his majesty; as maye bee judged by on example of many, that could bee related; for whereas the emperor and his councill of state had given a sentence in a civile cause betwixt partys, the patriarch of himselfe did revert it, and gave another clean contrary (and sayed, against justice) which held.

The emperor is altogether governed by the sayed patriarch, Borris Iuanuich, Ellia Daneliuch, and his wyfe, none have his majesty's care but they, whoe give him to understand what they list, and hee knoweth nothing of importance but what comes from them, and what they please to let him know. These three men are generally hated by the generality of the people of all conditions; and by whome much evill is spoken of them. It is sayed, that the cheeffe favourite and counsellor the patriarch hath is a fryer, Nervinancier; and many saye, his holynesse is to famillier with the emperatrice.

His majesty hath large and vast dominions, and but a few people to inhabitt them, in respect of their wydnesse; and those of the northerne partes not industrious. If this country were peopled as England is, and they soe industrious as the Englishe are, where the emperor hath a doller revenue, he would have five.

Not soe few as a million of people dyed last yeere at Mosco and those partes that were then infected with plague. At Archangell and five hundred myle within land was noe infection at all. Mosco and those places infested last yeere have bine free this; but at Cazan, Astracan, and those quarters, as farre as the Caspian Sea, have this yeere as great a mortality, as Mosco and those partes of the country had the last.

The last yeere, at my arrivall to Mosco, I was vizited by collonells Buttler and Gibson (I suppose both of them well knownen to your highnesse) whoe were very civile towards mee, as your highnesse servant. Lastly, a Scotchman, and the other two, are the three cheeffe collonels, of strangers, that the emperor hath. The two last attend on his majesty's persone with their regiments of fiveteen hundred men each of them; and Gibson is much in his esteeme and favour.

When I had translated into Englishe the emperor's answers made by his chancellor of the embassy office Almaze Juaniuch, to such writings as I had given him concerning the company of Russia merchants affayres, and fownd (with other omissions) no declaration, whether they might traffique any further into the country then Archangell, as other strangers doe. I sent to the chancellor, to know his majesty's intention in that particuler; and had for answer, that I could then no other then what was given mee; but hee would write to the emperor about it, and I should have his farther resolution before my departure to Archangell, which I have not had.

Before my departure to Archangell, I called John Hebden, Englishe merchant (hee was interpreter betwixt the emperor, his chancellor, and mee) to account for omitting the words highnesse, and lord, when I spoke and writt of your highnesse; and did it in that manner, as if I had bine certayne of his willfull omission of those words; but with oaths hee assevered to have used them both in his speech and writing; and that the leaving them out proceeds immediately from the emperor himselfe and the chancellor.

Herewith I present your highnesse a list of goods exported this last mart from Arch-
angell, with some other particulars inserted in it, all calculated as exactly as I could then have
it; only by better information after I was ascertained, that neere two millions of dollars
effectif was brought by shipping to that place this yeere, and above two hundred thou-
sand dollars more to Mosco, that was sent over land by Riga and the Narva, all by Dutch
merchants.

Whilst I was at Archangell, wee ha dneoe information of the emperor's progresse in his
warrs against the Pole, but what I had in a letter from mr. John de Rodes, the crowne
of Sweden's commissary resident at Mosco, which I give your highnesse in a paper herewith.

Before my departure from Mosco, I had sent mee by the chancellor Almaze, in the empe-
ror's name, a present of two timbes of fable skines, which are at your highnesse disposall.

This is all I know to meritt your highnesse cognizance.

Now that I have not acted in my employment what maye have bine by your high-
nesse expected, I humbly beseech you it maye not bee imputed to mee of negligence
or want of due devotion to serve your highnesse, but rather to my imbecile and weeke
capacitye; and therefore all defects that may have occurred, I beg and hope for your
highnesse benigne indulture.

Your highnesse most humble,

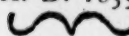
most devoted, and humble servant,

WILLIAM PRIDEAUX.

*A list of goods exported from Archangell, with theire prises and value, this present
yeere, 1655.*

| | | Robles. |
|--------------------|--|---------|
| Potashes | 6000 fatts, wayhing 18000 bircouits at 9 robles per bircouit | 162000 |
| Caviare | 420 butts, wayhing 18000 poodes, at dollers $2\frac{1}{2}$ per poode | 22500 |
| Tallow | 2000 caske, wayhing 6000 bircouits, at 9 robles per bircouit | 54000 |
| Red hydes | 50000 poodes, at robles $4\frac{1}{2}$ per poode | 225000 |
| Tarre | 2000 barrills, at 9 griuenes per barrill | 1800 |
| Linine yarne | 500 poodes, at 5 robles per poode | 2500 |
| Rhubarbe | 100 poodes, at 40 robles per poode | 4000 |
| Beeffe | 3000 poodes, at 3 griuenes per poode | 900 |
| Corke | 1000 podes, at 3 griuenes per poode | 300 |
| Gammons bacon | 5000 gammons, at 2 griuenes apiece is | 1000 |
| Cable yarne | 2000 bircouets, at 7 robles per bircouet | 14000 |
| Cordage | 1000 bircouets, at 6 robles per bircouet | 6000 |
| Perfia silke | 200 poodes, at 40 robles a poode | 8000 |
| Timbers of fable | 1000 Timbers, on with another, at 100 robles per timber | 100000 |
| Sable tips | 40000 at 50 robles per 1000, | 2000 |
| Ditto rands | 1000 pare, at 3 robles per pare, one with another | 3000 |
| Ditto tayles | 5000 at 100 robles per 1000, is | 500 |
| Bever wombes | 400 pownd, at 15 griuenes per pownd | 600 |
| Ditto stones | 400 pownd, at 2 robles per pownd | 800 |
| Leshe-hides | 5000 leshe-hides, at 4 robles per hide | 20000 |
| Drye cow hides | 2000 poodes, at 2 robles a poode | 4000 |
| Coarse linen cloth | 50000 arshines, at 20 robles per 1000, is | 1000 |
| Ditto fine | 50000 arshines, at 5 robles 100, is | 250 |
| Squirrells skins | 100000 at 20 robles per 1000, is | 2000 |
| Blake cat skins | 5000 at 1 griuene apiece, is | 500 |
| Bee-wax | 1000 poodes, at 4 robles per poode | 4000 |
| Hoggs bristles | 2000 poodes, at 3 robles per poode | 6000 |
| Mice skins | 100 timbers, at 25 robles per timber | 1000 |
| Goates skins | 20000 at 30 robles per 1000, is | 6000 |
| Hatts | 100000 at 20 robles per 1000, is | 2500 |
| Basse ropes | 1000 at 20 robles per 1000, is | 200 |
| Swans downe | 100 pownds, at $\frac{1}{4}$ of a roble per pownd | 25 |
| Ditto of geefe | 100 poodes, at 2 robles per poode | 200 |
| Goose feathers | 1000 poodes, at 1 roble per poode | 1000 |
| Ditto of ducks | 1000 poodes, at 7 gri. a poode | 700 |
| Candles | 1000 poodes, at 14 gri. per poode | 1400 |
| Woollencloth | 2000 arshines, at 5 copeake per archine | 100 |
| Foxes | 2000 at 5 gri. apiece | 1000 |
| Agarik | 200 poodes, at 1 roble per poode | 200 |

R. 660975
Of

| | | |
|---|--|------------------|
| A. D. 1655. | Of the above mentioned goods there maye bee for the emperor's proper account | Robles
150000 |
|  | His customes at Archangell of strangers and Ruffes | 30000 |
| | The custome within land to his majesty, for goods carried from Archangell | 20000 |
| | | <hr/> R. 200000 |

There is brought annually to Portugell, by Hollanders, Hambourgers, and Bremeres, a million of dollars effectifs.

The goods brought to Archangell by strangers on shipping cannot well bee calculated to a certaynty.

Two robes is counted a pound starline.

Ten griuenes make a robe.

Ten copeakes make a griuene.

40 pounds Ruffe waight makes a poode, and that makes 36 pounds Englishe.

The arshine is $\frac{3}{4}$ of an Englishe yarde.

By reason of the great plague the last yeere in those places, where most hydes are drest, there is but 50000 poodes this yeere, but usually here is 90 or 100000 poodes, and some yeeres more.

His imperiall majesty of the Greater and Lesser Russia, after his staye neere five weeks under a little towne, called Sleix, gave order to on of his generalls, to advance with his army towards Berisow, and to take his waye directly to Minsky; that his majestie, with the gros of his army, would follow him. Sayed generall arriving before Berisow, fownd a little incounter of the enemye, that caused his retrait bake to Minsky. The generall being returned to that place, fownd the enemye there 4000 strong, whoe received him in such manner, as constrained him to retire; but in his retrait, finding great succors coming to his ayed, hee returned agen upon the enemye, and assaulted him on bothe fydes, that forced him to flye, and retire to a wood near hand, and by that means with facility the generall obtayned Minsky. His imperial majesty being alsoe arrived to sayed towne, gave his orders to two generalls to advance towards Vilna, where the enemye was somewhat strong, and at the commencing of a fight there, made good resistance; but his imperial majestie giving presently his commands for all the other bodeys of his armeys, that were thereabouts, to come to the ayed of the first there arrived, as they did, the battle was hot, soe that many of his fyde remayned dead in the place. But a Cosacke coll. deceived the enemye, by throwghing himselfe with his people upon the Poles bagage, which laye betwixt the Ruffes and the citty; by which means the Poles imagining the emperor to have gayned the victory (whoe had then the worst) they retired in confusion towards the citty, where they and his imperial majestie's people entred pel-mel togeather, massacred, and putt all the Poles, men, woamen, and children, to the sword, that were there fownd; soe the emperor's party hath had a great victory. Duke Roginell with a few people is gone towards Verfovia. Generall Daubeskey, whoe had besieged the citty Bychew, having there found more resistance then hee imagined, and the place impregnable, gave it over, and is gone towards Sleix. Generall Chimchlinzhi is sayed to bee gone towards Leopolis.

The Poles are still at their diet at Verfovia, and have sent a great embassye to Sweaden, where the embassador, monsieur Lestinky, great treasurer and generall of the Greater Poland, arrived the vi. of June, and had presently audience of the king, and was by his majesty well received; but being hee was resolved to embarke by sea the 3d of July towards Stetin, his majesty appointed a great shipp of warre to take in the sayed embassador and his retenue, with order to follow him to Stetin. Notwithstanding the reception of the embassador, the king of Sweden's army assembled in Livonia, under the conduct of earle Lewenhaupt, hath sett on the citty Dunebourg, and having put to flight 6000 men, that came to succour it, tooke the citty by composition; and forthwith all marcht directly towards Lituania: the aforesayed citty was a little before besieged by the Ruffes, whoe found themselves to weake to take it, gave over their interprise.

The king of Sweden's embassadors are arrived at Riga since the end of July, and expected here before the end of this month.

From Mosco, August 15, 1655.

H. Cromwell,

H. Cromwell, *major general of the army in Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.*

Dublin, August 15, 1655.

SIR,

HERE hath little happened since my laste worthy of your knowledge, save our A. D. 1655.
resolutions in the business of reducement, upon which after much consideration
hade wee are come to a finall conclusion, and are nowe takeinge care to putt it in execu- Vol. xxix.
tion, haveinge a regard to publique safety. I ame affraide wee cannot proceed foe effec- P. 294.
tually as weer desireable, untill our forces be returned frome Englande, without runninge
some kinde of hazarde, which is to be avoided. The persons pitched upon are collonel
Axtell's regiment, collonel Hubber's, collonel Clerke's regiment of foote; lieut. generall
Ludlowe's, sir Charles Coote's regiment of horse, and Ingoldesbye's of dragoones; and
their beinge some deserveringe persons in each of the disbanded regiments, whoe are thought
fitt to be continued, we have made way for them by reduceinge the like number of
those that we intende to continue out of the loose companyes, and such out of the stande-
ing regiments as are thought les deserveringe. Collonel Clerke and collonel Ingoldesby
will have each of them a regiment new moulded out of the remaineinge part of the
loose companyes.

The satisfaction held forth to those that nowe disbande is foe advantagious, that it
hathe made more men greedy of fittinge downe upon the termes offered them to continue
their employments; foe that I doubt not, but the business will be done without difficulty or
danger. I ame sure the reducement hath been carried foe impartially, that none cane say
they are injured. All heer are deeply affected with the reprooffe upon our forces in the
West Indies. What the will of the Lord is in it is alone knowne to himselfe; but
surely we may knowe, if the Lord sees it fitt to humble us, that we may be the fitter to
receive his good pleasure, which I ame not without hopes, but that it will be good in the
issue. I ame not willinge to take up more of your time. I ame,

Sir, your humble servant,

H. CROMWELL.

If you thinke the business and reducement worthe his highnesse's knowledge, you may
acquaint his highnesse therewith with my humble duty.

Mr. Thomas Harrison to secretary Thurloe.

Much honoured in the Lord,

NEXT to the presumption of the enclosed to his highnesse, is this of the cover to a Vol. xxix.
person of so much and foe weighty business. Yet truly, sir, I dare not suffer a P. 290.
finfull modesty any longer to suppress and stifle that testimony, which I owe unto in
truth, and to the grace of our mercifull God towards us.

Sir, I am perswaded there was much good worke done by the way, as my lord came
along, through my lord's prudent and pious deportment; besides, that people do not
only love those who owne them and shew kindnesse to them, but those also (and it may
be those most of all) whome they themselves are pleased once to owne and to expresse a
respect unto, which was done abundantly towards his highnesse in my lord in every
place where we rested. And since our landing (which the good hand of the lord per-
formed very tenderly for us) I am assured, that my lord came over upon the wings of faith
and prayer, to put honour upon the publique worship of God, and life into his people,
and a checke upon some irregular spirits, whome I rather desire to serve in love and pittie,
then to censure. The people flocke abundantly to the word, and will, I hope, flow in to
the Lord, and to his goodnesse: hope, and joy, and satisfaction, may be read in most faces;
they alone looke fowre, who had swallowed up this good land, not only in expectation,
but actuall possession, and some of those cannot conceale their fretting at their feare or sence
of a disappointment. The nation lyes like clay upon the wheele, ready to receive what
forme authority shall please to give it. And truly, sir, that Christian spiritt of govern-
ment, wherewith I thinke I see my lord evidently clothed, and that hopefull disposition
which is foe universally visible in the people, encourage me to beleive, that the Lord is
returning and repenting concerning his servants, and that he is resolved forthwith to make
them glad according to the dayes wherein he hath afflicted them, and the years wherein
they have seene evil.

I dare not give you the trouble of particulars, unles you vouchsafe to lay your
commands upon,

Dublin, August 15,
1655.

Sir, your most humble
and affectionate servant,

THOMAS HARRISON.

Extrait

Extrait d'une lettre de Zurich, du 1^{er} Août, 1655.

A. D. 1655.

Vol. xxix.

P. 436.

Aussy tost que monsieur P. a eu ses lettres & la nouvelle instruction, qui fut le 10, j'ay tost insinué a monsieur le bourgem. Waser, sur quoy on a convocqué le conseil secret; ou le sentiment de sieur ambassadeur le protecteur fut proposé; & comme la conference seroit necessaire aussy tost, que le commissaire extraordinaire sera arrivé, on envoya aussy tost a Turin pour l'insinuer, & a Berne pour se preparer a la conference.

Tout a c'este heure la poste arrive de Turin. L'ambassadeur de France a fait la paix avec les nostres, comme il dit, que le seigneur protecteur l'avoit demandé au roy; mais une paix fort prejudiciable aux nostres, aux interessés, paix extorquée. Nos ambassadeurs ne l'ont pas signée; ce qui me plait, car on n'en eut eu point d'honneur, &c. S. A. le seigneur protecteur n'a pas esté respecté en pas un des articles, non en la restitution, qui est partiale, non en la reparation, qui est nulle, non en la justice contre les meurtriers detenue en injustice, non en la garantié & assurance pour l'avenir, ou ils seront tousjours exposés a la rage des loups.

On tient, que tous les estats evangeliques protesteront contre ceste paix, & qu'on taschera a trouver des autres articles, & d'avoir les assurances necessaires.

C'est une matiere qu'on doit bien considerer. On attend commissaires extraordinaires, des quels n'avons point des nouvelles.

On tient que ce seroit un grand expedient, s'ils allassent a Turin proposer leur commissions, & demander des autres conditions.

L'ambassadeur de France dit aux nostres a Turin, qu'il desireroit leur tesmoigner au possible; mais puis que S. M. estoit requise de S. A. le protecteur, des estats de Hollande, &c. il les prioit a ne persister en cela en la signature, comme le peuple le vouloit.

On s'est precipité, & il faut chercher remede.

*A letter of mr. H. Daubne.**Cadiz, August 1st, 1655.*

SIR,

Vol. xxix.

P. 326.

THE letters that I have lately written to you from this place are so many, that I dare not goe about to number them, for feare least whilst I goe about to justify my own care, duty, and diligence to serve you, I may seem to accuse you of some neglect of your poore friend, in not returning me one word of answer to any. I am sure, I have let pass no opportunity, that presented itself by sea, to send you letters, and duplicats, of the greatest importance, which I presume could not fayle coming to your hands, if the shippes did not founder in the sea. For those letters, that I have sent over-land, I cannot take upon me the same confidence, that being a very long, and casuall passage, especially now that so much suspicion rests upon all our nation, and not having secure correspondents at Madrid, St. Sebastian, and Bordeaux, which are necessary to send my letters forwards. In effect, I have in all my former letters acquainted you with the terrour, and flight, that all our countrymen have been putt to heer, by reason of the great broyle, that has been made upon this coast, by generall Blake's coming hither with his fleet, and remayning so long heer; who is presumed by many arguments, and some discoverys that have been made by letters from the very fleet, as I have informed you formerly, to stay for the richest galeons, that have come from the Indys thees many yeers; a prize truly worth his catching; but wee hope that he will fall short of his ayme, for though the king and all his counselle have been all this while lull'd asleep, in a confidence and security of the English friendship, yet the people heerabouts have in good time been awakened, and have freely, at theyr own charge, with the duke of Medina Celi his great diligence and assistance (who stayd in this towne a fortnight on purpose about it) sett forth an armada, of eight and twenty men of warr, and six fiershipps, wherof some have undertaken with theyr lives to fasten upon generall Blake's own shipp, and the rest, wee are confident, will so whipp the coats of our bolde countrymen, that they shall be soon taught, what it is, to watch for galeons: nor doe they mean to deale with our English, as the Hollanders did, disputing it onely with them at guerre galena, as they call it, but to come presently bord and bord, and decide the busyness with pistoll and sword. There are not less then eight thousand men aboard of the Spanish fleet, and a very great part of them, men of extraordinary quality, as gentlemen of this country, and many reform'd officers from Madrid, with divers of the country trayn'd-bands, and, amongst them, no less then six companys of houskeepers of this towne. In fine, never better flesh went aboard of any fleet out of Spayn: but it is confest, that theyr shippes are not altogether so warlike as the English,

for theyr fleet consists of theyr own loggerheaded galleons, to the number of fowrtteen of them, which carry about forty brās gunnes each; the rest are some slight French and Dunkirke frigats, fitter to runn away, then make a fight, and some other Hamborough, Holland, and Genoa trading shippes, that they could pick up to serve them. The French and Holland captayns would by no means be perswaded to accept the service themselves, though are very well contented to take a good freight for theyr shippes. Our olde freind, capt. Peter Toms of Hamborough, for all he was so forward to offer himself at first, yet has uppon second thoughts, having a considerable estate to loose at home, deserted the service: but his shipp and men are gon, as also the young captayn, his nephew (who it seems has no such hold of Hamborough, or that not of him) is with his shipp and men likewise, by his unkle's perswasions, ingaged in the service; and for all they are Lutheranes, wee have as much confidence in them, as any others, for wee knowe they are thorough enemys to our countrymen. This fleet has been gone out now at least tenn days, under the command of don Pablos de Contreras, whose pretenses onely are to guard theyr galleons home, and so carry very fayre orders, to vayne bonnet to the English, and give them the first salute; which if the English generall does not answer with equall courtesy, it will manifestly growe to a quarrell amongst them; which if it doe, I hope will be never the worse for us poore cavaleers heer; for they beginn already to looke uppon us better, and to repent theyr so much former compliance with that party, which they see now goes about to ruin them; and some say, if it growe to a warr, wee shall have the court at Cullen remove theyr quarters shortly to Madrid. The Spanish fleet getting out in the evening, and shaping theyr course more southwards, with a strong levant overshott the English fleet, which at that time lay within fowre or five leagues to the northward of this port; and as yet they have not mett one with another. The Spanish armada lys out uppon the coast of Portugall about the capes, and the English heer uppon this coast betwixt this and that about Aymonte; which makes the Spanyards say, that generall Blake plays least in fight, for feare of theyr armada, and that they came hither to steale, rather then fight; but it is the opinion of others, and more probable, that his orders are as yet defective, and so waytes to have 'em compleated from England, being unwilling to meet 'em, till he knowes what to doe with 'em: for it is reported, he should say, he would not feare to fight 'em with half his fleet. Others there are of opinion, that there is no intention at all of a breach between the nations; but of this neyther you there, nor wee heer, can be long kept in ignorance. One of the Spanish fleet, that spent hir top-mast, came in heer the other day, and tells us, that coming hither, he was taken aboard of generall Blake, who used them very kindly, askeing them some questions concerning theyr armada, and so dismiss them; as likewise don Pablos had done before to a catch of the English generall's. This shipp being now repayr'd, is speedyly to goe out agayn, with fowre or five men of warr more, to recruit and reinforce theyr fleet: for it is generally beleev'd heer, that the English expect more forces to come to 'em, and till then, will not advance towards them. It is all mens wonder and astonishment heer, that wee have no news all this while from the Indys. By that it is concluded of all hands, that the English have made some fowle disturbance there; and so probably have hindered the galleons from coming forth, which is all our hopes heer; for otherwise 'tis to be feared, that they are fallen already into the hands of the English fleet, that lys there. What is done in those parts, I believe you will have sooner notice in England, then wee shall have heer. What news does occur heerabouts, you shall be sure to have from me by all opportunitys; and I am sure you are so good a freind to Spayn, especially in this particular, that you will be much pleased to heare of all our good successes heer, which I shall not fayle to give you, uppon all occasions; but I pray you, leave me not in so uncomfortable a condition in the meantime, as not to heare constantly from you, how you and all my poore freinds doe there. I have written so often to you, concerning all my wants and desires, that I am asham'd to make any repetition. So for all that I refer my self to those former letters, and to your own goodnes for my better accommodation in all particulars. This letter goes by a shipp of Holland, that toucheth in England, and putts some more of our flying merchants ashore there. By the same means, if our English trade be obstructed, you may please to convey all your letters and commands to,

Sir, your most obedient,

faythfull and affectionate servant,

H. DAUBNE.

Order of the states general.

Jovis, August 26, 1655. [N. S.]

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
p. 330.

THERE was read in the assembly a certain memorandum from the lord embassador of Spain, containing complaints, that one William James, an English pirate, had taken upon the coast of Caraxas, in the West Indies, a certain ship called the St. Pieter, loaden with seven or eight thousand hides, belonging to the subjects of the king of Spain; and had brought the same into the island of Curacao, belonging under the jurisdiction of the West India company of these countries; which said pirate is said to be arrived lately at Amsterdam, in a ship, which he had freighted, and in which he had laden 1800 hides, having sent the rest to other places to be sold. Wherefore the said embassador doth desire, that such order may be taken, that the said pirate may be seized upon and secured with all such goods, by order of the admiralty of Amsterdam, that so the subjects of the said king may not lose all their goods. Whereupon being debated, it is resolved, that a copy of the said memorandum be sent to the admiralty of Amsterdam; and that they be desired to take such order, to the end the said William James may be seized upon, and his ship and goods secured, and withall proceeded against according to law. Besides, that a copy of the said memorandum be likewise sent to the governors and officers of the West India company, that they do not admit into their harbours such prizes and plundered goods taken from the subjects of the king of Spain and other allies of this state.

General Blake to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxix.
p. 336.

YOUR commands of the 30th July I received by the Assurance frigate the 13th instant, with the intelligence of a great fleet prepared to come out of Cadiz and their designe from your secretary, which in part we have found to be true, as I shall give your highnes an accompt.

The 6th instant I received a letter from captaine Smith, (which comes herewith) whereupon we stood away for the coast of Barbary, as far as Mamora, within 3 leagues; but having no newes of the fleet there, we made towards the bay of Cadiz, sending two frigates before to gain intelligence, who returned to us the 12th instant, with this, that the fleet sailed from thence seven dayes before, and were plying off Cape Vincent's, to which place we hastened; and the 15th in the morning espied them to the windward of us, we being then off the bay of Lagos, whither we desired to goe for water; but they bearing up upon us, with intent (as we thought) to fight us, I called a councill of warre, which unanimously resolved to ingage the first opportunity, being moved thereunto with an eage desire we had to see some end of our tedious expectation, and to prevent that accession of strength mentioned in the secretary's intelligence (whereof we likewise had notice from other hands) and alsoe out of a despayre of being able to keepe the sea many dayes longer for want of liquor. But the Spanish fleet furthwith tackt and stood the other way, and we after them all that night. In the morning we were fayre by them; but there being little wind (not enough to worke our shippes) and a great sea, soe that we could not make use of our lower tire, and alsoe a thicke fogg, we did nothing that day (theyre fleet being then thirty one in all.) The next day we continued in the same resolution, and sent some frigats a head to gaine the wind, and to ingage them; but the evening approaching, and a great part of our fleete farre a-sterne, we thought it best to desist for that tyme. These checques of providence did put us upon second thoughts, and a strict review of the instructions, which I had received; the which being all perused and compared together at a councill of warre, we could not find in them any authority given unto us to attacke this party, but rather the contrary; and we had reason also to conceive, it was not the intention of your highnes, that we should be the first breakers of the peace, seeing your highnes having notice of the coming fourth of the Spanish fleet, did not give us any new direction at all touching the same in your last order of the 30th of July. Upon these grounds we receded from our first resolution; and tooke into consideration the state of our fleet, which we found in all things to be extremely defective, but more particularly in want of liquor; some of the shippes having not beuverage for above fower dayes, and the whole not able to make above eight, and that at short allowance; and no small part both of our beuverage and water stinking. Hereupon it was debated amongst us, whether we should returne to the bay of Lagos, or goe to Lisbona for supply, there being no other place but those two. To goe to Lagos, it was not held good, both because all that country could not afford us one pipe of beuverage wine, and to gett water there very

very difficult, and, uppon the least wind from the south or east, almost impossible, and the place a dangerous road for such a fleet to anchor in; which wee must have done for getting a quantity of water; beside many other inconveniencies. It was therefore resolved, that wee should goe to Lisbona. Nevertheless wee kept in sight of them two dayes after, and on the 22d instant wee lay a great part of the day with our sayles hayled upp, untill they were very neare us; but perceiving they had noe intention to engage us, nor any commission to that purpose, as wee thought, and also understood by a small frigate of theyres of twenty fower gunnes, the captaine whereof coming accidentally amongst us, I comanded aboard, who told us the same; and withall that they knew nothing of the expected fleet at all, but only that they were bound to attend the coming of the same. Hereuppon our liquor growing lesse, wee stood away for Lisbona, where wee arrived on the 24th instant, and anchored in the road of Castcayes; and to my very great grieve I understood, that the Taunton frigate was gone two dayes before, which I had sent with mr. Maynard, according to your highnes commands, supposing to meet her there, or by the way; to which end wee spread the seas what wee could, and alsoe sent two frigats before, to looke after her; and have likewise sent the Diamond frigate to ply betweene the cape Vincent and the bay of Lagos, to wayt for him, and for advice out of England. Here wee find, that mr. Maynard was dismissed without any answer but this, that the king would send it by a minister of his owne. How these passages of providence will bee lookt uppon, or what construction our carriage in this buisines may receive, I know not, (although it hath bin with all integrity of heart) but this wee know, that our condition is darke and sadd, and (without especiall mercy) like to bee very miserable; our shippes extreme fowle, winter drawing on, our victualls expiring, all stores fayling, our men falling sicke, thorough the badnes of drinke, and eating theyre victualls boyled in salt water for two moneths space; the coming of a supply uncertaine (wee received not one word from the commissioners of the admiralty and navy by the last) and though it come tymely, yet if beere come not with it, wee shall bee undone that way. We have noe place or friend, our recruits here slow, and our mariners (which I most apprehend) apt to fall into discontents, thorough theyre long keeping abroad. Our only comfort is, that wee have a God to leane uppon, although wee walke in darknes, and see noe light. I shall not trouble your highnes with any complaints of my selfe, of the indisposition of my body, or troubles of my mind; my many infirmities will one day, I doubt not, sufficiently plead for mee or against mee. soe that I may bee free of soe great a burthen, consolating my selfe in the meane tyme in the Lord, and in the firme purpose of my heart with all faythfullnes and sincerity to discharge the trust, while reposed in mee. As soone as the Taunton comes (which I continually expect) I shall dispatch mr. Maynard immediatly; and as soone as wee have gott a sufficient proportion of liquor (which I hope may bee in five or six dayes) wee intend (God willing) to sayle to the southward cape, and to spend some tyme thereabouts, soe long as wee can possibly lengthen out our victualls, soe that wee may bee able to gett home, in case the victualling shippes doe not come in tyme; which wee shall then bee forced to doe, or must perish in the sea. I have no more at present to trouble your highnes with (this already being I feare too much) but shall ever remayne,

Aboard the George, in Castcayes road,
August, 1655.

Your highnes's most humble
and faythfull servant,
ROBERT BLAKE.

Mr. Thomas Chamberlaine to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

I WAS yesterday to have wayted on your honour by order of my lord mayor, to acquaint you, there would be twenty thousand crownes payed this faire at Lion, but as yet have not the name of the person, whome your honour will intrust to receive it, which is a great hinderance to the worke. I hadd likewise given order, to draw upon me as much more; but in regard of a declaration made by the French king, my freinds, being protestants, durst not undertake it, but advised me to give order to the freinds of Amsterdam to give the commission; but the payements being the next moneth, it will be very short tyme, and inconvenient; but the next payements, which will be 3 moneths after it, may be done with ease and more advantage; and if there be occasion of mony sooner, they may draw upon the next faire of Lion from Basell, or Geneva, which will be the surest, and take off all suspicion; and not having the conveniency to speake with your honour, I

Vol. xxix.
p. 322.

A. D. 1655. went to the honourable colonel Sidnam, and acquainted him with the same, and delivered him an abstract of the newes from Geneva, and a copy of the king's letter; and wherein further I may be serviceable, you shall find me to be

August 16, 1655.

Your honour's

most humble servant,

THOMAS CHAMBERLAIN.

Mr. Peter Pett to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

Vol. xxix.
p. 312.

I HAVE been much importuned by some honest men, that I employ'd (according to his highnes order) in making search in all vessells in the river of Medway and Thames, for the lord Wilmott and others, to give an allowance to them for the same; which because it cannot be done, unless you please to signifie his highnes pleasure therein, I humbly desire therefore to be your remembrancer, resting

Your honour's humble servant,

August 16, 1655.

PETER PETT.

Mr. Longland, agent at Leghorn, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

Vol. xxix.
p. 350.

THIS town is full of newes of the beating of our fleet in the West Indies, but by yours of the 19th July, I see ther was no newes then in England of it. The advys is, that, our fleet having possesst themselves of St. Domingo (having very good intelligence ther that by order from Spayn the Spanish fleet had landed at their plate, layd up their ships for next year) they went directly thence for Cartagena, wher making several assaults, they wer beaten off with the los of 3000 men, and wer again rettyred to St. Domingo. This advys coms from Cales, wher is arrayvd a smale ship from Havanna. In regard 'tis this week so generally advysd from Holland, that our fleet has received a repulse, I am very fearful that this relation is true; which maks me giv you the particulers of what I hear. I hope God wil giv our men harts and courage to turn again, and posses themselves of the place.

The Spanish fleet lyes still at Porto Spetie, without landing their men, or doing any thing. 'Tis sayd, they expect a larger suply from Naples of 1500 horse, and 4000 foote, which by letters thence myht depart in 6 days. The most knowing men here believ thes Napollitan forces will affourd Millan no more help, but meerly their countenance and reputation of their presence so nere them, but that they ar al desynd for Cattalonia, to stop the torrent of the French in thos parts, lest Barsalona fall again into their hands. In conclusion the Spaniard has need of thes forces in so many places, that I think they ar at a stand wher to land them.

The reports of the siege of Pavia is various. Two dayes since here was advys it could not hold out 14 dayes. This day 'tis reported, the Spanish general is redy to tak the field with 14000 foot, and 4000 horse, to fall upon the French quarters. Such an army, if they wer good soldiers, myht do much. This week is arrayvd an English ship from Allicant, whence 'tis advysd, that general Blak's fleet was latly sien nere Cales to be at least 70 sail, which maks som imagin hi may hav taken the plate-fleet. A Dutchman wryts, hi has cald the Turks of Argier to his succour. Thes Duch ar our good friends still.

'Tis advysd from Rom, that ther ar great differences betwixt the pope and Mazarin for the favours conferrd by the pope upon cardinal Rez and the prince of Condé's agent. 'Tis most certain, that the pope labours with al his power to bring about a treaty of peace this winter betwixt France and Spayn, that both (and al other princes concerned with them) may send plenypotentiarys to Rom; the rather becaus here is in Italy a terrible fear, that the Sweads army maks but a pretence upon Polland, theyr mayn desyn being for Germany. I writ you in my last, that doctor Bayly is urgent with me for more mony. Pray affourd me your positiv order, how far I shal credit him. Althoh I am demanded of him, and writ to by severall, yet I own him not, but hav denyed him even to your brother Lydcot; yet I must tel you plainly, the papists from al quarters know he is employd by you, and accordingly report of him.

Here is in town, passing towards Rom, an Irish collonel, with the duk of York's pas, ^{A. D. 1655.} which reports him the son of an earl, who was one of the generals in Ireland to the late king. 'Tis a kynd of a begging pas, and such use he maks of it, having sent a priest amongst our nation, to gather theyr benevolence, which to theyr sham som of them ar too forward to affourd. Here is com from Spayn lykwys one collonel Welden, a Kentish gentleman, going towards Millan. The imprifonment of the royal party maks a great nois here in Itally.

When generall Blak cam into thes seas to tak French, I thoht by that means to salv my losses sustained by them, which made me by your hands to petition his hyhnes for my reparation out of thos pryzes general Blak should tak from them; but I se that way is not feisible for example sak, lest others should expect the lyk. I assure you, I should not hav cryed roft meat; however, I humbly giv you thanks for your redines to help me in any other way, but to fynd out such another conveniency for reparation of my losses, is not in my capacity, but I shall willingly embrace such a way, as you shal direct me unto. I hope his hyhnes horses ar wel arryved before this. It would be my great content, to hear they wer to his good lyking; which pray impart unto,

Right honourable,

Leghorn, August 27, 1655. [N. S.]

Your most faithful servant,

CHARLES LONGLAND.

'Tis now reported, the Spanish ships begin to land theyr men.

Just now is com a letter hether out of the French army befor Pavia, dated the 21 instant, with advys, that the French had that day stormd al the works, and taken them with the los of 3 or 400 men, and wer now under the town wals. The Spanyards fortyfy another town betwixt that and Millan, to keep the French off that citty as long as they can.

A letter of intelligence.

Antwerpe, August 27, 1655.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

UPON my departure from London, I told your honour, that I should have an occasion Vol. xxix. to goe to Francfort in Germany; and soe upon my journey passing through Ceulen p. 354. upon a saturday by the way intered into a bookseller's shopp to looke for some boocks, where I met some English fellowes talking soe licenciously and basly of his highnes the lord protector, and saying many false things of the state of Englandes affaire, that I took the opportunity to speake something against there discourse, soe much as in the presence of some Germaines persons of honor they were convinced of falsewood; but at last they simulated to be my friends, and desired me to goe along with them the next day, being on a sunday, for to see some curiositys, and in the hower appointed wee met in a church, and afterwards they carryed mee into a house, where they said there were fine pictures, where being came an ancient man, who began to talke of k. C. and of England, and very simply and maliciously of my lord protector; whereupon I gave no answer, but against his expectation spake more moderately, knoing not wat end these sayings had to. He asked me, wether I was not a right Frenchman, though I was living under soe many kinds of tyrands in England, and wether, if it was in my power, I would not doe any service to the right king. I answered him, that he knew, that being a foreigner, and of no estate in England, I was not able to doe him any good, but that I would endeavour to serve him, and imploye myselfe as a good Christian for another true Christian; but hee pressing mee, continued saying, that the good king had many friends and servants in England, but that it was imposible for him to intrust them with special orders concerning his busineses, because the same orders had been many times intercepted by the way. Then asked hee mee, wether I would for the king's service carry some commisions to England. I told him, that I would not meddle myselfe with any busineses, *nec pro nec contra*, because I knew my inhability in doing him any good; but that if he would intrust me with the said commisions, I would deliver them: and upon his request having told him my name, he said thou art then the same physician, who dedicating a boock to thine protector, have calomniouly written against the king; and thou art alsoe the same, whose departure is signified unto me from some parts; and immediately shewed me a letter, saying, that on such a time such a one was to goe from England beyond sea, having a passe dated on such a day from the councill; and it was very like, that the same was going for a spy, because he had great interest with Thurloe the secretary, to whom he had discovered some Irishmen dessein, who had great things in hand for the king's service;

Vol. III.

8 X

and

A. D. 1655. and continuing, said, that as for him, he would not doe any thing against mee, but that there were many officious persons to the king ready to hurt mee, if I should not withdraw very shortly; and soe went away, hearing no answer from mee. Then enquiring who was that auncient man, it was told me, that he was one mr. Nicholas, secretary to k. C. I thinking that there was not security for mee, I departed the next day from thence for Aken, where the baths are. I humbly thought fit to give your honor notice of the premices. I directed my letter to Brusselles for mr. Bostock of London, and from Aken I went to Spa; then did I write again to your honor, which letter I hope your honor hath received; but since the sending of the same mr. Manly being at Spa, hath told the rhingrave, Governor of Maestrich, that we departed together from Dover for Flanders, and that I had been at Ceulen; whereupon the said rhingrave did send for mee, and questioned mee very much, wether I was not my lord protector's spie, giving him notice of things that I had seen and heard by the way; and having given him satisfaction upon his questions, I told him that I marvelled much, who had given him such an impressiion. Then ceased he, asking pardon, and saying, that it was onely by curiosity, he having no more to say, in as much as my lord protector and he were in peace, and soe departed civilly from me; and taking leave from him, I went from Spa to Brusselle for my returning to England, and enquired wether my said former letter concerning the premices was received there in its time, and sent to England; but was told me, that they had not received such a letter. Then I conceive, that the said letter hath been intercepted by the way, having not been directed to its addresse.

From the city of Louvain to Antwerpe round about Brussell, I have found upon the way more then thirty thousand countrymen all armed, who having received command from the archiduc to meet at Brussell under the comte Bruny. Many others doe come at all howrs, in as much that within 15 days, they being in a huge number shall joingn the archiduc, being now about the city of Monts, much pressed by the French king two miles of.

The queen of Swede is going veri shortly to Ceulen, and k. C. to Aken; and doubtlesse shee and k. C. shall meet some where without knowing one another.

It is much talk, that the king of Spain will sell the duché of Limbourg to the state generall of the Loe Countrey, which thing shall put Maestrick and many other places in security for the said state. Some beleeve, that they shall make a permutation in this manner, that the state shall give to the said king these places which they hold, and have in hand of the duche of Gueldria for the duché of Limbourg.

Those that I have seen at Spa were mr. D'Opdam amiral of Holland, baron Brederode, the rhingrave, comte Machau, governor of Rees, all for the states generall. Marquis St. Estienne, lieutenant of prince Condé, the duc Darschot, comte Grobendour, governor of Limbourg, with their ladyes, and my lord Duns, with many other of lower condition and sexe.

Having nothing else for the present to writte unto your honour, I remaine,

Right honourable,

your most obedient servant,

L. D. L.

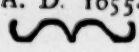
A paper concerning major Robert Walters.

Vol. xxix.
P. 340.

I DOE beleeve, that aboute June . . . 54, major Robert Walters was very active in contryving and profecuteinge the late insurrection (espicially) in Yorkshire, from whence the said Walters came up to London severall tymes in company of one Nicholas Armorer, who is cup-bearer to the prince's off Orange.

And in the tyme of their being at London, every three or fower days removed lodgings (except at a chamber in the Temple, whear the said Armorer was bedfellow with colonell Grey) whear I have seen severall gentlemen, as sir Thomas Armstronge, the lord Byron, one Read, and divers others I knew nott; and att that tyme of his lodginge there, mr. Nicho. Bethell, (who I thinke lives at or near Pluckley in Kent) brought me 100l. in gold from the said Walters, to deliver to the said Armorer, which I did.

Some tyme after Walters borrowed ten pound of mee, to be repaid mee by sir Ri. Mauleverer of Allerston, in Yorkshire; butt faylinge aboute 5 weeks after goeing to Edminton, the said Walters overtooke mee accidentally, and at the next inn repaid mee. I perceav'd hee had greate store of money and gold by him, and was armed with a harquebuste

quebuffle and pistolls, and earnestly intreated me, I would not take any notice, that I see A. D. 1655: him, for that noe body knew hee was at London, and how that hee came up in his  showes.

After the ryfinge, understanding that the said Walters was fled, I tooke some payns, and found him; and hee being at Gravesend to make his escape for Rotterdam in July last, hee tould mee severall passages of the laite ryfing, viz.

1. I asking him, if the apprehending of Gerrard and others wear nott a discouragement to them, hee said noe, they concern'd them nott, they wear of themselves.

2. I then asked him, if they should nott have risen sooner: hee sayd, hee had three severall tymes been countermanded by the councill after hee had absolutely apointed the days, and that the deputys, as hee called them, of the bishopric of Durham, Northumberland, and the north of Yorkshire, had been with him, and had given him an accompt of theyre readinesse, and that hee believed foe many countermands discouradg'd them foe far, that itt hindered foe generall a ryfinge as would have been at first.

3. And that hee had a list of above 1500 gentlemen and others that engaidg'd in the counties above (of which the tenth appeared nott) which list hee tore in a wood near Barkway, when hee maid his escape from Lockyer.

4. And that when hee borrowed the 10l. of mee hee went for Collen, and stayed theyre 4 dayes, and that the kinge gave him 30 peeces to bear his charges and commisions with which he engaged the Yorkshire gentlemen,

5. That one duke Darcy went to Rotterdam aboute July last in a ship (whose maister is brother to Nicho. Jasper) and now lives at St. Katherine.

6. And that the lord Fairfax of Denton promised them 100 men and other assistance, but hee thought hee did them noe good.

I verylie beleeve that upon assurance of life hee would devulge whatsoever concerned that buesinesse, and who wear engaidged in itt, which perchance may bee of more consequence then his life.

August 17, 1655

Mr. S. Avery to Secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

I SHOUD take it for a great favour, if I might by a few lines from you by this bearer Vol. xxix. understand something of his highnes pleasure concerning the buisnes at Hambroh, p. 334. and in Holland relating to the merchants adventurers, which I made bould particularly to mention in my last unto you, which was left by the bearer the laste weeke with mr. Fayrebanke.

Yesterday I receaved from our commissioners the resolution of the flats of Holland delivered them at the breaking up of theyr last assembly, whereof I thought it my duety to send you a copy, together with a translation thereof in English, which you will find a poore empty thing, all our former ancient priviledges granted, and severall times confirmed by the stats generall, being holden in suspence; wherof if his highnes please to shew his resentment unto the ambassadors, and to insist uppon it in the negotiation now on foot with the Dutch ambassadors, I beleeve they will be brought to a better understanding.

However, if his highnes please to make good what he hath graciously written to the townes of Rotterdam and Dort, for their encouragement, which is to reduce all the trade in the woollen manufactures of England to one of those townes, which we shall agree with, that towne will mayntaine us in all our ancient grants and priviledges; and if it shall be thought fitt to reduce the trade of Scotland also to our mart towne, which is now in Zealand (who love us not, being wedded to the Orange partie) it would bee a great obligation uppon that towne. All which I doe humbly submit to your consideration; and remayne

London, August 17,
1655.

Your faythfull freind

and humble fervant,

SAMUEL AVERY.

A letter

A letter of intelligence.

Rome, August 28, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
P. 514.

THE siege of Pavia, of whose good success none doubts here, and the marching of the person of the king into Flanders at the head of his army, did afford the fullest assembly, that was ever seen upon a day of St. Lewis, where not one cardinal was missing; and monsieur the cardinal de Retz himself came also uninvited.

The picture of the king armed and crowned with laurel on horseback, which I had received out of France a few days before, and which was set over the gate of the church, gave so much admiration and affection to all the people of Rome, that the like was never seen. Now that the treaty of peace of those of the Vallies hath been signed, the lord protector must find out some other pretence, if he will defer the signing of yours.

The Spanish fleet, consisting of 18 men of war, and 15 gallies, set sail a while since from the gulph of la Spetie, where it had lain a fortnight, with an intention to have landed the men at San Pier d'Arena, and to have marched from thence for Milan; but arriving at Porto Fino, and understanding, that our fleet was at sea, those that commanded the Spanish did not think fit to proceed any further, although they were not far from the place they were bound to, yet they returned back to the said gulph of Spetie from whence they came. In the mean time they write from Genoa, that the duke of Vendosme is arrived at Caplorio, where he may easily hinder the landing of their men, and obtain some further advantage upon the enemy.

Servien, *the French ambassador in Savoy, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.*

Turin, August 28, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxix.
P. 518.

THE peace of those of the pretended protestant religion of the Vallies of Piedmont, which I writ you word last week to be concluded and signed by his royal highness and by them, hath been since fully executed, the troops of either side being withdrawn, and the prisoners released; and likewise the inhabitants of both religions have visited one another, and embraced each other with many expressions of love and joy, which they have of being reunited together, and brought under the obedience of their sovereign. I did not retire myself from Pignerol, till I had seen all things thus established and confirmed. I have the honour to be, &c.

A copy of the letter from the prince of Condé to monsieur de Turenne.

August 18, 1655.

Vol. xxix.
P. 152.

I WAS not a little surpris'd, when a letter, which you wrote to the cardinal Mazarin, fell into my hands. I send you a copy thereof, to the end you may see, that I have a small cause to complain of you. I will never think it strange, that you get upon as many advantages as you are able, if they be true ones; but to see in a letter, signed and sealed by your own hand, that the retreat, which we made lately, was so precipitated, that our last squadron was forced to remain over the river; that I have left our canon at Valenciennes; and that I should have said, that I had had a great contest with the Spaniards; and that I did advise to remain in the post of Valenciennes; these are things so remote from the truth, that unless I did perfectly know your hand, I should not have believed that this letter had come from you. I only spoke to the lords, the earls of Guiche and of Vivone, the prince of Marillac, and some others, who were all of them persons of too much honour to say that I ever spake to them of any contest, as you say; and I do willingly submit to their testimonies; and if you had been at the head of your troops, as I was in the rear of mine, you would have seen, that our last squadron did not swim over the river. I thought, to satisfy what I owe to my honour, that I was bound to write this unto you, and to desire you, that when you speak of any action another time, wherein I have a share, that you will speak the truth. I have still done the same in those, wherein you have been interested, and when you served under me; and since we have waged war one against another, I shall always continue to do the same, and will be, &c.

A copy of the letter of the prince of Condé to the marechal de la Ferté.

August 18, 1655.

MY LORD,

I SEND you the copy of a letter, which monsieur de Turenne did write to the cardinal A. D. 1655. Mazarin, whereof the original is fallen into my hands, whereby you will see what he saith of that which past lately in our retreat. I believe if you had had the van, you would not have spoken after that manner, for you would have seen it; or if you could not have arriv'd soon enough, you would have informed your self by persons, that should have seen it. He saith, that we were so close pursued, that my last squadron was forced to swim over the river; that we left our cannon at Valenciennes, in regard I could not bring it with us; and that I had said, that I had had a great contest with the Spaniards to remain in our post. For the last I take to witness the prince of Marillac, earl of Guiche, of Puyguillen, and others, whether I ever spoke to them; and yet they are those alone, whom I spoke to in the march. As for our cannon, we were so little prest, that we should have been very miserable to have left them behind us. And as for my last squadron's swimming over the river, I can assure you, that they were not obliged to dry themselves after they had past the river; and that we did not break our bridge till long time after that we were gotten over. I do not tell you all this, to draw any advantage from our retreat. I do only tell it you, that you may not take any false impression from what monsieur de Turenne may impart unto you. I do not demand either praise or contempt. I desire the continuation of your amity, and beseech you to believe me, that I am, &c.

Vol. xxix.
P. 156.

The examination of Thomas Coleman, of Hushburne Tarent in the county of Hants, taken this 19th day of August, 1655.

[Taken by secretary Thurloe.]

WHO saith, that upon the monday morning, which the late insurrection began Vol. xxix. upon at Salisbury, when the judges were seized by the cavalier party, there came P. 446. one Jethro Tull, servant to mr. Thomas Hufsey of Hungerford-park, to the said Hushborne Tarent, to the house of one Thomas Widley, farmer of the parsonage there under mr. Hughes, and asked for the said Thomas Widley; and his wife answering, that he was gone for Salisbury, to the assizes there, upon a trial he had before the judges; to which the said Tull answered, tush, there would be no assizes at all, or words to that effect. And then he demanded the rent due to his master for the said farm (which used to be paid to the vicar, as an augmentation) and did receive the same; and gave his acquittance for it. This the informant had by the relation of the wife of the said Thomas Widley, within a quarter of an hour after the said Tull was gone; who also told this informant, that he drank the health of Charles Stuart at the house. And further saith, that the said Tull went from Hushborne to Winchester, to gather up money, as he was informed.

THOMAS COLEMAN.

The prince d'Harcourt to secretary Thurloe.

MONSIEUR,

LE sieur Douin * passant par cette ville, & me voiant dans le desir de fere venir huit * Downing. chevaux d'Angleterre, m'a temoigné, que vous me ferres la faveur d'en demander la Vol. xxix. permission a son altesse; & qu'elle auroit la bonté de me l'accorder. Je vous en ferai tres P. 540. obligé; & si dans l'estendue de mon gouvernement il se presenté quelque occasion pour le service de son altesse, ou pour le vostre particulier, je l'embrassera avec affection, & vous tesmoignerai, que je suis,

Monsieur,

Vostre tres humble serviteur,

Le Prince d'Harcour.

De Montreuil par mer en Picardie,
ce 30 Aoust, 1655. [N. S.]

Mr. R. Laurence to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
p. 536.

MY last was of the 13th of August, adviseing that the 8th day the Venis bayley, accompanied with the French ambafador, had private audience with the vizere, desireing that the old bayley might bee sent away from Andranople, and that some accomodation myght bee made betweene them and the Turke, to which the vizere seemed verie willinge. The next day being the 9th hee visited the Musfee. Within few howers after hee had given that visitt the vizere was changed, soe that theire worke is now to beginn againe, they as well as all other Christians haveinge lost a good freind. Hee hath bine in feare of his life ever since hee hath bine vizere, and no man thought hee would have continued soe long as hee did: hee is gonn from hence into Damascus. The reason why hee was put out of place, and sente hence in such hast, is, because Hufan aga with a sonn of Ipsher basha is now come to Angora with a greate body of horse, and demands the person of the vizere, as being the cheefe man that had a hand in cutting of Ipsher basha. As yet the new vizere is not settled in his place, soe cannot give you any accompt what hee intends to doe, or whether hee will give eare to those of Tunis, or not. Soe soone as any thinge offers in that busines, I shall not faile, according to my duty, to advise thereof. I further aded, that the Turke had ordered the buylding of forty shippes for the next yeare's service; that sir Thomas Bendesh had sente to salute the new vizere, and soe soone as could hav audience intended to carrie him his presente; and that one of sir Thomas Bendish his servants, as itt is sayd, jesting with another with a fowleing peece, shot his consort in the head, soe that hee dyed presently.

The aforesayd lines is coppie of what then writ; since which those of Tunis have bine with the new vizere, and made theire laments, desireing, that they myght bee permitted to present a petition unto the grand seigneur concerning the sayd busines; unto which theire request the new vizere hath given them the same answer the old one did, which was, that as yet it is not tyme. Soe it is sayd, that they doe intend suddainlie to returne back for Tunis, leaveing those here, which shall prosecute the busines, when they finde a conveniente tyme. The grand seigneur hath given them six peece of brasse ordnance, which they are to place in that castle, from whence your highnes shall * * * them, they haveing complained that for want of such greate ordnance, they could not defende themselves against the shippes. The 16th of this month the Venis bayley was sente for by the vizere, and all men thought that hee * * * * * backe againe to Andranople; but itt appears, that there is no such * * * * * but the new vizere seemed to shew him more favor then * * * * * for that it cleerlie appears, that the Turks would willingly have * * * * * the Venetian upon reasonable termes, they begining now to feare the Muscovite, who it seems is not farr from Buda, a frontier garrison of theirs; and one the other side the French kinge not longe since writ to the grand seigneur and the vizere in favour of the Venetian. And indeed the French ambafador is the cheefe cause of the Venis bayley's being detained, as I have understood, and itt was thus: the French ambafador treated with the vizere for a peace to bee made with the Venetian: the vizere promifes, that if an ambafador were sent from Venis, hee should bee sivilie used; and if they could not agree, hee should have safe conduct backe. Hereupon the French ambafador being confidente of performance of what the vizere had promised, hee writes to Venis, and thereupon they sente their ambafador. When hee comes here, his demands were such, as the Turke would not listen unto. Finding it to bee soe, hee desired safe conduct backe againe, according unto what they had promised the French ambafador; but the French ambafador not haveing a hatta sheref, which is the grand seigneur's comand, the vizere denies what was promised; and instead of sending the Venis bayley backe with a safe conduct, have kept him with a safe guard at Andranople; which busines causeth the French kinge to bee somethat urgent with the grand seigneur for the freeing of the bayley; and the French ambafador hath and doth take greate paines therein, and is the only cause of his staying here, and as yet nothing effected.

Hufan aga, which was comeing for this porte with a large body of horse, to have made demands for the life of Ipsher basha, is forced to retreate, the people aboute Angora being risne to oppose him.

The captain basha is gonn againe to Malvaser in hopes to relevee it; but it is hoped, that the Venetian may have takne it ere this. Thus with my prayers unto God, that hee would direct you in all your waighthy affayres, unto whose protection I commit you, and rest

Your highnes faithfull and obedient subject,

Pera of Constantinople, Aug. 20, 1655.

RICHARD LAWRENCE.

Lord Broghill to secretary Thurloe.

HONORED SIR,

I EVEN now received the honor of your letter, and a full dispatch of all those particulars I presumed to recommend unto your favor and care; soe that now (God willinge) I shall hasten for Scotland, wher whilst I am, you may assure yourselve you have a faithfull affectionate servant, and one who is obliged to be soe by too stronge ties ever to be broken. Your commands concerninge the fisheryes, and sendinge highlanders to America, shal be in an especiall manner observed, as much as lyeth in my power; of which as of all thinges els you shall have a constant and plaine account from,

Audelyend, August 20,

1655.

Sir, your truly obliged

and reall humble servant,

BROGHILL.

The order for commencement of colonel Wetham's salary and mine has mr. Scobel's hand unto it; but that which mentions the establishment of the counsell's salary, and their clerks, has noe hand unto it. If that be an omission, I beseech you let it be rectified. I apprehend you have forgot procuringe an order from his highnes, for a weekly mayntenance of my lord Grandison, (which my lord protector promised me he would signe.) Truly, sir, he is reddey to perrish, and my lady Suffolke also, whos brother he is

Mr. Aldworth, consul at Marseilles, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

MY last unto you was of the 24th current, giving you notice, that the Thollon fleet Vol. xxix. was on departure, and they att present only attend a fayre wind, and pretends to seeke P. 544. the Naples fleet to fight them; but it is most probable, they are designed for Barf-lona, in regard the wind is att present contrary to carry them thether. The duke Mer-kures order is revoked, so hee embarkes not to command under his father. Two dayes past heare arrived a ship of this place from Smirna, but on the way mett with an English marchant ship, who on pretence had a commission to take French, hath taken out all her goods to the vallew of neare 50,000 peeces $\frac{1}{2}$, which hath so intraged the people of this place against us, as that myselve with the whole nation, except such as are ill wishers to his highnes and the state, are constrayned to keepe oure persons and houses well guarded to save oureselves from the fury of those rude poeple. How long oure troubles in this nature will continew, we cannott yett imagine. Heare is advice, that the Spaniards hath had a greate defeat in Cattalonia, and that Pavia in Italy is surrendred to the duke of Modena for the French. If the Thollon fleet meet with those of Naples, it's suposed wil bee to weake for them, they having butt 19 ships of warr, and six fyre ships; and those of Naples are 20 ships of warr, and 14 gallyes. Noe Portugall ships of warr as yett arrived. So for present humbly take leave, and remayne

In Marseillia, August 31, 1654. [N. S.]

Your honor's servant,

JO. ALDWORTH.

A letter of intelligence.

Stetin, September 1, 1655. [N. S.]

BOTH armies being joined marched towards Lublin, seeking an enemy, but behold Vol. xxx. there meeteth them unexpectedly a nobleman of Poland, one of the king's bedchamber, P. 37. with letters from the king, in which he complains of the Swedes expedition so suddenly undertaken against him, especially at such a time, when he was assaulted in so many parts of his kingdom by the cruelty of savage enemies; and though he was not conscious, wherein any of his family had in the least offended the king of Swedeland, yet he would not refuse a parly with him, either in person or by an embassador, if so be the king and his army would but make a halt, and come on no further. That for his part, he was prepared to

A. D. 1655. to give him the utmost satisfaction that became a king to give. That in war sometimes fortune doth prevail, but oftner a good cause. That the king should consider, lest he be not weary at last, to take up in time, and be contented, that he had been supplicated by the king of Poland.

The king of Swedeland keeps the nobleman with him, and returns him answer by the post that he shall speedily be with him with his army; and then if he please, he may speak with him face to face. In the mean time he will not refuse an ambassador, provided it be not to procrastinate and delay time. The king marcheth directly to Warsaw.

Here is an ambassador passing here from the emperor to the king of Sweden. It is thought he hath some new matter to propound in behalf of the king of Poland.

Translated from the High Dutch.

High and well-born count, my gracious lord, and mighty patron,

Vol. xxix.
P. 372.

THESE days we got advice here, as if a treaty should be in hand betwixt his royal majesty, our most gracious king and lord, and the king of Poland, which the latter has obtained, as it is said, by a deputation, and especially by the colonel Pazcinsky, and with tears and supplications. And that for this purpose mr. Leczinsky was some days ago gone to the Polish camp by the way of Thorn from Marienburgh. How far this said treaty will be carried on, we must see. So much is certain, that his royal majesty our most gracious king, is in full march against the Poles, and lyeth but a small distance from them, with the gross of his army and forces, so that perhaps, as some people will have, a battle may have happened already, if the Polander has but had resolution enough to stand it, and thus all may be over already. Last funday his excellency the lord field-mareschal general, and vice admiral of the realm, arrived here in the road, with the whole fleet, and after he had acquainted the magistrates by me of his arrival, and given them notice, that he was ordered by his royal majesty to lay with the fleet here, in this Polish harbour, and there to take a toll from those that trade to Dantzick, till the city had compounded and settled matters with his said majesty; he weighed anchor, and went into the Pantfker bay, 4 or 5 miles from hence, and there disembarked the troops he had on board, which, as it was reported yesterday, have made themselves already masters of the Pautfke, and thus have taken a very good place, wherein they may fortify themselves and make the best use of the circumjacent quarters of Cassubia. The waywode of Pomerellia, mr. Ludwig Weyer, as it is said, was upon the march with some hundreds of troops, to relieve the place, but came too late. Just now we get the news by the way of Thorn, that the Poles are beaten, and that the Mazurian troops were entirely destroyed, and the rest of the troops surrounded, so that but few will be able to escape. His royal majesty had taken Lowitz already, and the king of Poland was retired with a small number to on the frontiers of Silesia. The Dantzickers have resolved to give to his majesty no toll, and accordingly have shut up already the custom-house here, so that all navigation for this year is over and prohibited. After recommending your lordship most humbly to the divine protection, I remain

Your excellency's, &c.

Dantzick, September 1, 1655. [N. S.]

H. Cromwell, *major general of the army in Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.*

Dublin, August 22, 1655.

SIR,

Vol. xxix.
P. 554.

I DID not thinke to have given you any trouble this poste, beinge prevented in time, and haveinge little worthe your knowledge. I gave you an account in my laste of the persons, whose weer declared to be disbanded. We have bin since employed in the prepareinge their severall proportions of land, whereupon they are to sitt down, and hope within 14 dayes to settle them uppon their respective places. Soe soone as that worke is over, we shall have little of difficulty to doe as to army, untill we come to act the same parte againe; which I hope will not be suddenly, you haveinge reduced us to as narrowe a scantlinge, as will but well enable us to secure what we have, (our forces with you being returned.)

I could wishe, the management of your civill affairs weer as easie. I am sure you want handes for that. What we shall doe in the absence of my brother Fleettwoode, I doe not well knowe. He intends to goe frome hence aboute 10 dayes hence. I shall have

have little comforte to stay behind, further then to answer duty, in the doeing of which A. D. 1655
I trust the Lord will assist me with his presence. I shall not further enlarge, but remaine

Your humble servant,

H. CROMWELL.

Col. Robert Lilburne to the protector.

MAY ITT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

THE particuler services this bearrar mr. John Drummond minister has done your highnes, Vol. xxix.
has bene many and eminent, with as much cordiallness as I have observed in any man, p. 562.
(I know both to the hazard of his life and fortune) and both night and day has gon many
a mile to gett and give intelligence, and for all his paines and charges, while I was in Scot-
land, could never fasten six pence upon him. If I should goe about to inlarge upon his
deserts, I should give your highnes too much trouble, and detract from what I humbly and
really conceive he hath merittied; and doubtlesse for his faithfullnes to your highnes and
service is very much to be vallewied, and I humbly wish he may not be unrewarded both
for his owne and other such mens incouragement, which I am confident he should not
want, if your highnes did rightly know and understand his worth. Craveing pardon for
this boldness, which I presumed upon as a duty I owe to your highnes, as

York, August 22,
1655.

Your highnes faithfull
and most humble servant,
R. LILBURNE.

Extract of the resolutions of the states general.

Jovis, September 2, 1655. [N. S.]

ON deliberation it is thought good and resolved, that a letter shall be sent to the lord Vol. xxix.
Nieuport, extraordinary embassador in England, to the end that he may exactly inform p. 558.
himself, and give an account to their lordships of what passed and is negotiated between
his highness the lord protector and his council, and the embassador of the king of
Sweden, endeavouring by all possible means to that purpose, that his before mentioned
highness and his council may communicate unto him, with an equal candor and open
heartedness, the passages between them and foreign ministers there, and to know what his
highness's intentions are concerning the same, as he the lord embassador hath done hereto-
fore in the name and on behalf of their lordships.

J. DE MERODE.

Resolution of the states general.

Jovis, September 2, 1655. [N. S.]

THERE being produced in the assembly the letter of mr. Levinus Warnerus, resident Vol. xxx.
of this state at Constantinople, writ from thence the twenty second of May last, p. 85.
containing amongst the rest, that amongst the Turks there was a common report, that
most of the Venetian fleet were Netherland ships: whereupon being debated, it is re-
solved, that an account be writ to the said resident, therein signifying, that their high and
mighty lordships have no knowledge, that any subjects of this state do reinforce the Vene-
tian fleet with their ships; but it may be true enough, that some Netherlanders, who are
no subjects of this state, do join with the said Venetian fleet. This the said resident is
to make known in the name of their high and mighty lordships, where it is requisite.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

Sunday, the 29th August, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
p. 520.

THE vice-admiral de Witt being examined upon the condition of the Baltick sea and of the Sound, saith, that the great ships are not improper for the Sound and the said sea; and that the water is deep enough and wide enough for the said great ships; consequently that those of the admiralty of Amsterdam have ill advised and spared the truth, when they said, that the great ships lately built were not proper for the said Baltick sea. However he said likewise, that in all the Baltick there were no fit harbours or ports for the said great ships, except Copenhagen and Wismar. Some think, that the vice-admiral said that to please the lord of Opdam, who doth desire and will go admiral in the great ship built at Rotterdam.

The lord Rosenvinge hath caused to be made known by the lord president, that he hath heard, that they had resolved to send an extraordinary fleet for the Sound; that by the treaty of alliance it is said, that that cannot be done, without first giving notice thereof to the king of Denmark his master. Thereupon it is resolved to write about it to monsieur de Vries, resident of this state.

There hath been likewise again spoken of sending, as well into Sweden and Poland, as into Denmark.

The council of state hath caused to be read in the states general a deduction, justifying their proceedings concerning the commerce of Gemert.

August 30.

Yesterday there came a letter from those of the admiralty of Amsterdam, remonstrating, that they begun to equip the fleet, and would hasten it; but desiring to furnish it with iron guns, which the states of Holland have in abundance in Amsterdam, it was refused them, although they offer to accept them in payment of those fums, which Holland owes them.

Item, they desired to know, whether they should send the 16 ships, one after another, as soon as they are ready, towards the Sound; or whether they shall be sent in a fleet all together. Whereupon it was resolved, they should proceed to the equipping of them, and they would send them word afterwards, what they should do with them; to which end the assembly of Holland is to meet at the beginning of the next week. Many yet believe, that nothing will come of this fleet.

This day was read the news of the taking of Vilna by assault by the Muscovites; and that the elector of Brandenburg hath been obliged to agree with the Swede, by suffering half of the garrisons of the Memel, Pillauw, and Lantsbergen to be Swedes; so that the treaty made with this state will be of little use. And this is the recompence for Amsterdam's flattering so much the said elector.

The lord Beuningen is still absent; the lord raet pensionary likewise, although that Holland be president.

Of the sending into Denmark is at present *altum silentium*; at least it doth seem to grow very cold, since that the lord Beuningen doth absent himself; and no pressing doth come from Amsterdam.

August 31.

The resident of Poland hath exhibited and delivered the enclosed letter of credence into the hands of the lord president, without demanding audience, having only required commissioners to confer with him. Whereupon it is resolved, that he shall have for commissioners the lord de la Capelle, and others formerly named for the business of Sweden and of the elector of Brandenburg.

The lord Beuningen is not yet come hither.

The ministers of Denmark have given a visit to the president, discoursing that they had heard much of an extraordinary fleet, which was making ready to be sent to the Sound; that they did not know how the king their master would take that; that they had no order to speak of it, but that they spoke of it of themselves; and that they did conceive, that it would cause great jealousy to Sweden; and that the king of Denmark being upon good terms with Swedeland, in all likelihood would not give any distaste to Sweden. But in regard they declared, they had no order from the king, and that they did not speak it to have it reported in the assembly of the states general, the lord resident hath not made any report thereof to the assembly, but doth reserve it till the next sitting of the states of Holland, which will be the seventh of September.

September 1.

September 1.

There hath not yet been any conference with the resident of Poland, in pursuance of his letter of credence. He hath signified, that he is not well; and that the conference may be deferred till Friday. A. D. 1655.

There was discourse in the assembly, that the said resident doth act a little coolly, and some doubt, whether he be well satisfied with the king.

On the behalf of the elector of Brandenburg, the states general are required to write to the great duke of Muscovy, and to desire him, that he would spare the territories of Prussia and others belonging to the said elector, who is allied to the state. There is yet nothing resolved upon this; and one may say of it, as that in Terence, *huic ipsi patrono opus est quem defensorem paro*.

This state did believe to have gotten a great antagonist against Sweden; and he employs the assistance of this state, yea a letter.

The lord Beuningen is come from Amsterdam, but saith nothing of sending one for Denmark.

The directors at Rotterdam have writ and made complaint, that those of the admiralty will not furnish them with guns and other necessaries for the three ships.

September 2.

That which we had to day from the private correspondent at Stetin, goes here enclosed; by which it is seen, that the elector of Brandenburg hath made his agreement; but the letters, that are come this day from Berlin, speak the contrary, that the said duke doth persist in agreement made with this state. That the lord Wyman will return suddenly hither with the ratification; that the treaty between Sweden and the elector is broke, &c.

The ships going upon the Maese, the masters thereof have made complaint against the exactions of the Spaniards.

Holland hath propounded to withdraw the troops sent to the garrisons between the Rhine and Eems.

The lord Beuningen doth not speak a word more of his going for Denmark.

September 3.

There is a letter come from the elector of Brandenburg himself to the states general, avouching with much civility the treaty, which his deputies have concluded with those of this state; and that he will send the ratification within a few days to be exchanged against that of this state.

There is advice come likewise, that the lord Brederode being come to his house of Petershem near Maestricht, was fallen very ill; and that in twenty four hours he had not been seen; and that there was much lamenting amongst those of his family; from whence they conclude, that he is dead; but that it is kept private. Holland hath endeavoured to withdraw at least the horse (which for fear of the Swedes were quartered this summer upon the frontiers between Eems and the Rhine) to their old garrisons; but the other provinces are not willing to it; to declare that they will not leave to Holland the free disposal of those companies which they pray for.

Count Brienne to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

La Fere, September 3, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

THE commissioner extraordinary, whom the protector of England hath sent into Savoy, of whom mention is made in your letter of the 19th of the last month, had not only a long discourse with his eminence, but went away from him very well satisfied, and with all the good reception which was made him. This commissioner, I say, is departed to continue his voyage, conducted by the courier Heron; notwithstanding that I shewed him, that the commotion of Savoy was accommodated, his royal highness having past over, and submitted his sense and his discontent at the request of the king; and the accommodation was brought to the end as was proposed, through the address and good conduct of my lord ambassador Servien. I should be deceived, if by the post of Italy, which will arrive to morrow at Paris, he doth not send me a copy of the treaty; for having oftentimes advertised you, that the chiefest reason, which did invite his majesty to interpose in this business, was his desire to make known to the protector and the protestant cantons, that he hath no averfion against those, who make profession of the pretended protestant

Vol. xxix.

p. 410.

A. D. 1655. *protestant religion, and that it did displease him, that his troops had executed that which had been resolved by the duke of Savoy; without doubt mr. Servien will inform you what good success he hath had. In regard I am going for Paris, whither his majesty is likewise going with an intention to stay there some time, you will not be surprized that this letter is no longer. It may be by the next I may send you some further orders concerning the intentions of his majesty.*

The letter of the lord protector to the king is not at hand, else I had sent you a copy.

An intercepted letter of Sir George Ratcliffe to one Mr. Harrison.

Paris, September 4, 1655. N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxix.
P. 456.

THE princess royal is with her brother at Cologne, who follows his book close: she means to stay there yet three months longer. It is probable mr. Johnson may go thither, for mr. John Ware will persuade him to quit the company of monsieur Bretom. Much talk we have of an ambassador come to Paris well attended, who, they say, hath taken a lodging *Rue de Sene*, with two Swiss at his door, where no English, Scots, or Irish may enter, but only French. He is said to be a gentleman of great credit, scout-master general, and called Downing. His first pretence was for Savoy: now men guess (and but guess) that he means to reside at Paris. Hence most conclude, that the next news will bring the desired peace between England and France, and then have at Flanders the next year; which if France get, (as who should hinder them?) Shortly after they may enquire, how they do in the United Provinces.

There hath been a great slaughter on both sides in Catalonia, but the French kept the field. France also hath newly taken Condé and Ghillain, with loss of many of their men. They now think to fetch contribution to the gates of Brussels, and quarter a great part of their army in the enemies country. The king of France is much delighted to be in the army.

An intercepted letter to Mr. White.

Paris, September 4, 1655. [N. S.]

SIR,

Vol. xxix.
P. 458.

I WRIT you by the last, and add this only to tell you, the king and court will be here on tuesday to receive the duke of Mantua, who hath forty in a fair livery. The ambassador is very desirous to have little Diego de Blanco for his first page, who is as fine a lad for that purpose as any is in France, and exceeds all others for his modesty and languages. He hath promised to carry him along with him into England, whether as page or no; however his name is don Diego Blanco. The ambassador knows nothing of any relation he hath to you, or any other, but only that he is a knight's son, well born. All men here admire at Holland's last will, but I not, because I never saw any of his country to decline that point of folly. How came Holland by so much? What is become of Mrs. White by no share of the gettings left for her? I cannot well think how so much could be well had on a fair and honourable score. *Requiescat in pace: de mortuis nil nisi bonum.*

I shall be ready to embrace the advice you will send me in your next; for I am resolved to be now off or on with red cap, and not to be fed longer with fair words, which is no good provision to stuff a belly. No news of Pavia's taking as yet.

When the court comes, expect all.

Intercepted letter of lieutenant general Middleton to the earl of Atholl.

MY DEEREST LORD,

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

I AM so confident of your lordship's favours still, notwithstanding all these revolutions, that I shall not fall upon compliments, which are only fit to begin a friendship with. The honest bearer is a person that you may trust, and will tell you more than is fit for me to write; and I am sure will be just to me in telling you, that nothing can change me from being,

My dearest lord, your most faithful and most humble servant,

Utrecht, Sept. 4, 1655. [N. S.]

J. MIDDLETON.

For the right honourable the earl of Atholl.

Intercepted letter of lieutenant general Middleton to the earl of Glencairne.

MY LORD,

THE bearer is a person so much trusted by you and by me, that I shall not give you the trouble of a long letter. He will tell you much more than is possible for me to write, and I am most confident will do it justice; and am very hopefull, that your lordship will believe me to be,

Utrecht, Sept. 4,
1655. [N. S.]

My lord,

Your lordship's most faithful

and most humble servant,

JO. MIDDLETON.

For the right honourable the earl of Glencairne.

In the possession of the right honourable Philip lord Hardwicke, lord high chancellor of Great-Britain.

The Polish resident to the states general.

Lectum, Sept. 4, 1655. [N. S.]

HIGH AND MIGHTY LORDS,

HIS majesty of Poland and Sweden, my gracious king and lord, hath ordered me to offer unto their high and mighty lordships his affectionate service, amity, and good inclination and affection, and to wish unto them all happiness in all their undertakings; and also to remonstrate unto them, how that the Swedish nation, seeing the good correspondence, amity, and mutual commerce, whereby his majesty and their high and mighty lordships subjects have flourished above all other nations; which hath caused so much malice and envy in the Swedes, that they have endeavoured to hinder others from the same freedom of commerce and free use of the East Sea, and to arrogate and draw to themselves the *dominium maris Baltici*; and then to lay what impositions they please upon the merchandizes; and to keep all other nations out of the East Sea; and to turn the free commerce into a monopoly. Now there was no greater obstacle in their way, for the effecting of their design, than the crown of Poland. Therefore they advised first to invite the Muscovites and Cosacs against the crown of Poland, who have made such great progress, that almost the whole province of Lithuania is overrun by them, and many thousands of people murdered and ruined by the Muscovite; wherewith this cruel Swedish nation not being contented, hath invaded the territories of his said majesty with three strong armies, in three several places, notwithstanding the truce between his majesty and the Swedish nation; and notwithstanding his majesty sent his ambassadors to Stockholm, to offer to make a peace upon any reasonable terms, yet they assaulted his majesty at unawares in a most barbarous manner, having taken Dunenborgh in Lyffland, with one of his armies, and invaded great Poland with another; and through the treachery of the degraded Polish vice-chancellor subdued under his power two whole palatinates, without striking one blow, or the loss of one man, where they are fortifying themselves, causing the third army to follow after them for a reserve, and causing their fleet to lie upon the coast of Dantzick, to prevent any thing from being imported or exported; and finally to subdue all Poland.

And although his majesty of Poland hath hitherto endeavoured to prevent all that he can their designs, with such forces as he hath on foot; yet he finds himself at present so distracted through the many enemies, that his forces are not sufficient to resist, unless his majesty be assisted by his neighbours and friends; without which it is very probable, that the whole crown of Poland, and with the same also the use of the sea, which God prevent, will fall into the hands of the Swedes. Now in regard this is a common business, and would be a common loss; therefore his majesty hath commanded me to desire their high and mighty lordships, that they would be pleased, for the preservation of the above-mentioned, to assist his majesty with men or money; his majesty faithfully promising to repay the same, as soon as he shall be in any condition to effect the same. And his said majesty doth also promise, to hold the interest of this state as his own, and to assist them upon all occasions, if need be; firmly believing, that their high and mighty lordships will not abandon the crown of Poland in their necessity, but will declare on the contrary, how much they are concerned in the welfare thereof, by taking some speedy resolution for the preservation thereof.

High and mighty lords, your humble servant,

DE BYE.

Mr.

Mr. Geo. Downing to secretary Thurloe.

HONORABLE SIR,

A. D. 1655.
 Vol. xli.
 P. 750.

BY last satterdaye's post I sent you two letters, and sent a third the next day, which overtook the packett by the way, and was putt into the male, which gav an account of the peace with the duke of Savoy. In another was enclosed a letter from count de Brienne, wherein he gave me an account, that the king and cardinall would both be at La Fere that day or the next for certayn, and that his majesty desired I shold come to Noyon; wherupon the same day, after having been at church at Charrinton, wher was a very great congregation and good preaching, I took horse and went that night to Louvre. The next day, being monday, I went to Noyon; and on tuisday early I came to La Fere, whether the king and cardinall came the night before. When I was within about a league of the towne, an expresse mett me from Bryenne to desire that I shold stay at Chauny, which is about 3 leagues from La Fere till the king and cardinall's pleasure weer knowne. I told the messenger (who was a courier du cabinet du roy) that I could not go back, but would stay in any cottage in the next village, till he returned and gave an account therof to Bryenne, which accordingly I did, and within about three houres the courier came back to me, with orders that I might come to La Fere, which accordingly I did, and was by him carryed to an inne, wher the queen's trayne were; and within about three houres after came mounseigneur du Bosc, one of the king's secretaries, with the count du Brienne's coach, to carry me to the cardinall, to whom I presented his hyghnesse's letter, and as well as I could in Lattin communicated to him what I had farther in command. I was full two houres in private with him; he told me, that of all things in the world he desired a right understanding with his hyghnesse; that he would do any thing in his power to evidence it; that if a strict allyance were made, nothing could be too hard for them; that he looked upon it as necessary for them both; that he looked upon an ordinary allyance upon the account of trade, &c. as a thing, that would not be good for either; that Burdo had from him orders to that purpose, and that he wrote word, that his hyghnesse would only make an allyance upon common grounds, which did not agree with his eminence his fence; that for Charles Stuart and that family in this case, wher interest would be concerned, they shold be of no more consideration than the brotherhood is at present between the queen of Fraunce and the king of Spayne. That as to the protestants in Fraunce, as he had been their freind to keep them from wrong, since he managed affayres heer, so if ther were any thing, that his hyghnesse would have done on their behalfe, which might stand with the honour of Fraunce, he would do it, thow for his part he had not interposed on behalfe of the catholiques in England; and upon this particular he enlarged much. That the accommodation now in Piemont was by his master's intercession. That he would engage, that no treaty or peace shold be made in Spayne, but with his hyghnesse consent. That as during the time Holland had war with Spayne, Fraunce and they did every winter confer counsayles together, and agree whear each shold fall upon the Spaniard; so he would do with his hyghnesse, so as if his hyghnesse would wholly mind the businesse of the Indyees, he might; or if also he had a mind to any towne in Flaunders, he would assist him in it. He earnestly pressed, that I would return for England; and if so, that he would have sett downe particularly what he would have agreed to, and have sent it to his hyghnesse, for that he said, commonly changing hands somthing intervenes to hinder or divert; but telling him I could not do it, he resolved to write in generall to his hyghnesse. He told me, that as a pledge of his good-will to his hyghnesse, he would tell me a secret, which he said could no other ways come to his hyghnesse, to wit, that a person, who shold have commanded in the fleet, that is gone with Penn, went about two months agoe to Brussels, and from thence imbarqued for Spayne, to reveale what he knew concerning that design, and the persons engaged in it, and to seek and endeavour how to overthrow it; this he desired I might let his hyghnesse know as a great secret. For his name, he said he knew it not, and that if it were any wayes known what is heer written, his intelligencer would be destroyed: he said moreover, he knew the Spaniard had now some notable design in hand against his hyghnesse; that as any particulars therof shold come to his hands, if he sawe me againe, he would impart them to me; for that he looked upon his hyghnesse friendship as good for himselfe and France; and that it would be to him strang, if his hyghnesse having begun against the Spaniards, shold not accord with France; and that for his part, he well knew, he could also do something in the world as well as his highnesse. The cardinall asked me, whether I desired to deliver the letter I had to the king myselfe. I answered not: wherupon he sent mounseigneur du Bosc with me to the count du Breyenne, to whom I delivered it; and taking leav of his eminence, he promised I shold be dispatched the next day, and from his lodging I returned to the quarter I came from in Bryenne's coach. About an houre after du Bosc came to me, and told me, his eminence had ordered me the governor's quarters, and brought the queen's coach to carry me thither,

thither, whether the cardinall sent me his owne supper with this complement, that it being A. D. 1655. too late to provide any thing, he had sent me what was made ready for himselfe, and would seek a supper himselfe: he also sent his owne plate and servants to wayte, and the captain of his guard, and mounseur du Bose to keep me company the whole time I stayed in towne: the next day also he sent me a dinner and his owne plate and attendance. After dinner, having received the king's and his eminence his letter, I took horse, and came that night to Noyon. The captain of the cardinall's guard discoursed much with some in my company of the cardinall's greatnesse, worth, and allyances, which he had in Fraunce; but withall told one of my company, that notwithstanding all, he looked not upon himselfe as safe, without his highnesse's friendship; and that he was the only man could thwart his designs. I asked the cardinall for a sight of the articles between those of the reformed religion and the duke of Savoy; he told me, and so after did Bryenne, that they had not as yet received them. At Noyon I received an expresse from mounseur du Bose, the summe whereof was, that his eminence had commanded him to let me know, that since our conferring together, he had received advise from Spayne, that the merchants of Cadiz, Civill, and other townes there, were making a flecte of thirty ships to goe to reinforce and meet the plate flecte, against admiral Blake.

Thursday I came from Noyon to Louvre, and friday morning came to this towne, and presently sent away my company towards Lyons, as farre as they could goe that night.

Since my coming hither, I received yours of the $\frac{1}{2}$ of August, and shall now (God willing) make all haste to Geneva, wher I hope to be about tenne dayes hence, or eleaven at most; and by that time I hope that ther will be new instructions there what I shall do, businesse standing as it doth between the duke of Savoy and the protestants, of which I understand an account at large was sent to his hyghnesse, with a copy of the articles the last post; but least that possibly shold have fayled, I have heerin inclosed another copy of the articles from the same person. I find, that as soon as mention was made of sending a person to debate with the duke, an account therof being sent to the cardinall, he forthwith dispatcht orders to Servient to inforce on both sides an aggreement, or otherwise, that the king of France would abandon the disaggreing party.

This day I received a letter from mr. Morland from Geneva, of the $\frac{1}{4}$ of August, by which I understand, that mr. Pell is not yet arrived there; that (as we have it heer) the businesse in Savoy is concluded; but yet however, that he earnestly desires I would come forward to Geneva, whether, as soon as this is sealed, I beginne my journey; and hoping that positive instructions will meet me there, I take leave, and with my humblest loyallest duty to his hyghnesse, to whom are heerin inclosed a letter from the king of France, and another from the cardinall, I am, sir,

Aug. 25, } 1655.
Sept. 4, }

Your most faithfull humble servant,

G. D.

HONORABLE SIR,

Having at last dispatcht what I had in command to the court of Fraunce, I thought it my duty to give his highnesse a speedy account therof, and therefore have dispatcht this bearer, mr. Warcup, who came out of England with me, therewith to you. I pray use him courteously; and finding this journeying trade and the court very chargeable, I desire that you will be pleased to take care, that he may be reimbursed his charges, in carrying this dispatch to you. The news at La Fere was, that the king intended to leav La Fere this day, and to be at Chantillon on monday, to receive the duke of Mantua, who is still in this towne. The inclosed give you a particular account of passages. I am, sir,

Aug. 25, } 1655.
Sept. 4, }

Your most faithfull cordiall servant,

G. DOWNING.

I pray do the bearer the favour, to let him kisse his hyghnesse hands. He can give you an account of my journy particularly hitherto. I write only to yourselfe, as to what occurs or concerns my businesse, that you may wholly (as your due is) have all within yourselfe.

The cardinall offered me a guard, but I refused it, but have accepted of a courier du cabinet du roy to goe along with me.

When you send me new instructions, unless they be to return, I pray send me an order or letter of credit for more money. I am, I am sure, as good an husband for his hyghnesse as I can be, but I shall spend per menssem 500 l. sterling; and the letter of credit I had was but for 12000 livres, which is but between 900 l. and 1000 l. English.

The

The Swedish resident to secretary Thurloe.

HONORATISSIME DOMINE,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
P. 424.

ELAPSI jam 11 dies sunt, postquam excellentissimis dominis commissariis mihi à serenissimo domino protectore constitutis, aliquatenus mentem senerissimi regis & domini mei exposui de negotiis ab ipso hoc tempore dignis judicatis, de quibus cum serenissimo domino protectore transigeretur: expectavi interea responsum ab excellentissimis dominis promissum, & eos promissi commonefacere incivile duxi, gnarus videlicet quantis negotiis quotidie occupati sint, donec & negotiorum maxima pondera, et tempus quod ad hyemem inclinatur (quæ difficiliorem mihi transitum maris in reditu minatur) coegit, ut honoratissimum dominum secretarium hisce compellarem, diligenter petens quod ipsi placeat efficere, ut mihi cum dictis dominis commissariis iterum congregari, negotia tractanda reassumere, & ita proprius rem ipsam attingere integrum sit, nisi etiam molestum honoratissimo domino secretario esset, cum illo semel ipse colloqui, in loco aliquo tertio, qui ab ipso aptus judicabitur, enixe cupio, certissime sperans, quod hoc modo commodum mutuum dominorum nostrorum maxime promovebitur, & honoratissima dominatio vestra me ad quævis officia devinctissimum habeat, quem optime valere cupio. Ex domo comitis Dorseti, 25 Augusti, A. 1655.

Honoratissimi domini secretarii addictus,

CHRISTER BOND.

Mr. E. Rolt, envoy to the king of Sweden, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONOURABLE,

Vol. xxix.
P. 488.

I Received yours of the 10th instant, for which I returne most humble thanks, as being the most comfortable cordiall in a tedious journey could have beene administred from a tender hand of true affection to your poore unworthy servant. On the 16th I left Hamburg, being honourably entertained there by the English company, and was attended out of the towne by them with neere twenty coaches. Upon my journey I received many respects from the commanders of the king of Sweaden's garrisons, which I past through; and on thirdday the 23d instant I arrived at Stettin, hoping to have found there the rix chanceler Oxensterne, but he was gone from thence with the king's brother prince John towards the army the day before. Hearing that count John Oxenstern was left commissioner by the king to attend the Polish ambassadors, whoe were appointed to meet heere, on fryday morning I sent mr. la March with a complement to him, and desired a time to waite on him, which he was pleased to appoint at one of the clocke, and then sent two of his gentlemen and his coach for me. He received me with great civility, and was pleased to retire with me into his closett, where after he had used many honourable and affectionat expressions towards his highnesse and the present government, he related to me the businesse he was imployed about into England in thirty foure; and by the manner of his discourse I finde he is noe freind to the family of the Stewarts. I have by him endeavoured to informe myselfe, how I may with safety proceed in my journey, which I resolve to undertake (God willing) upon the 27th instant towards the king of Sweden, who tells me, that his master is marched to Conin in Poland, where he is to joyne with generall Whittenberg. The Polish king gives out he is resolved to stand and fight the Sweeds. He was by the last advice at Lowicz, and intends for Lancicia, his force consisting of 8000 strangers, which are all that are souldiers; the rest are peasants, whose number is uncertain, and that know neither discipline nor courage. And now considering the difficulty, danger, and tediousnes of my journey, which unexpectedly hath befallen me, and which I humbly conceive must necessarily occasion my more than ordinary expence, I beseech your honour to give order to resident Bradshaw, to furnish me with such money as I shall have need of for the future, there beeing better conveniency to doe it from Hamburg then may be found at London. This favour I am the more bold to begg of your honour, by reason that my moneys begin to slippe away apace; for I find all manner of necessarys, where they are to be found, very deare, (and in some places neither meat nor lodging) the army having swept all in many places, where I have travelled allready; and the further I goe, I am informed the condition of the country to be more sadd and miserable. I have ventur'd to proceed in my journey hither without a guard; but from hence I am courtiously offered a sufficient guard by the commissioners appointed for the

ordering affaires in Pomerania, which as yett I am resolved to accept, if the charge uppon A. D. 1655:
 further conference with the officers prove not too insupportable; and my reason is, be-
 cause that part of the marquisse of Brandenburg's countrey, which we are to goe through,
 being very full of souldiers and free booters, and as I am informed may peradventur
 proove insolent and dangerous, therefore I am unwilling to goe without guards, till I
 come into the quarters of his majestie of Sweeden. Thus havinge nothing more of mo-
 ment in this my travelling condition to acquaint your honour withall, I humbly subscribe
 myselfe

Your most faithfull

Stettin, August 25,
 S. V. 1655.

and most obliged servant,

E. ROLT.

Col. Bamfylde to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

YOU I knowe have noe leifure for preambles, and I therefor shall not use any; but Vol. xxix.
 in the first place shall tell you, that two days after you sent mee the pass, I arrived p. 496.
 at Calice, where I met with a person of quality, whoe informed mee of the condition of
 Collen, in few days after I came to this place, where I have had better successe in all those
 particulars you recommended to my care then I did expect; the account of which being of
 to much weight to be adventured in writing, I shall referr to my wayting on you, which
 by God's permission shall be aboute 10 days hence. In the mean tyme if you defer the
 concluding of the treaty, till I can acquainte you with what I have to say, 'twill be noe
 waste either of time or oyle, since I finde you maye eminently improve the conditions,
 which I understand here, you are already in effect satisfied with, and draw greater ad-
 vantages both to the establishment of your present government, and to the honoure and
 utility of the nation. The king came hither yesterday, where in the evening was great
 triumph for his late successe; and this day publique thanksgiving for the same at Nostre
 Dame-church, when the king, queen, duke of Anjou, and the cardinall were present;
 and to morrow as the effect of the late increase of his power, he intends to have the
 edicts verified by the parliament here, which they refused before his late removing from
 this place. This will heighten discontents here, but as yet not occasion any distraction.
 I will not adventure to say more nowe, then that I hope at my returne to give you such
 an accompt of my voyage, that you will not have reason to conclude mee too bolde in
 my undertaking, nor yourselfe in the confidence you have been pleased to seem to have in,

Paris, Wednesday, Sept.
 5, 1655. [N. S.]

Sir, your moste humble

and moste faithfull servant,

J. B.

Lord Broghill to secretary Thurloe.

August 27, 1655. 40 miles on my way to Scotland.

HONORED SIR,

SINCE the multiplicity of your affaires, whilst I was at London, denyed you the leasure Vol. xxxiii.
 to perfect that grant of a weekly allowance for my lord Grandison, which his high- p. 604.
 ness was pleased to promise me for him, I have intrusted the remindeinge you of it to
 mrs. Villiers his sister, who, though she will not thinke you the unjust judge, yet I be-
 lieve you will finde her the earnest sollicitress; and therefore to oblige yourselfe as well as
 us all, I hope you will with your best leifure get that grant perfected. Really, sir, his
 condition is very low and sad, and delay will be as bad almost as a denyall. Therefore I
 beg you pardon the importunity, and grant the earnest request of,

Sir, your very affectionate

and most humble servant,

BROGHILL.

P. Warburton to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
P. 590.

I CAME to this towne on saturday laſt in the eveninge, and am ſent for by my ſick wife into the country, where ſhee is; otherwiſe I would have wayted upon your honour before now. I have nothing to preſent unto his highneſſe or your honor, but that wee found all the countryes where wee were in a peaceable and good condition, and ſoe wee left them; only in Herefordſhire and Glouſterſhire were ſome country greevances preſented unto us by the ſeverall grand juries of thoſe countyes, the one concerninge the exciſemen, and the other concerninge the quakers, as may appear by their ſeverall preſentments herewith ſent unto your honor. Thus ceaſinge to be further troubleſome to your honor, cravinge pardon for this bouldnes, I deſire to bee and remayne

Your honor's moſt humble ſervant,

Woodſtreete, Auguſt 27, 1655.

W. WARBURTON.

The examination of Richard Moone, ſtationer, Auguſt 27, 1655.

[Taken by ſecretary Thurloe.]

Vol. xxix.
P. 574.

WHO ſaith, that upon ſaturday was ſev'night in the morning mr. John Sturgeon, one of his highneſſe's life-guard, came to this examine's ſhop at the ſeven Stars in Paul's church yard, and deſired him to go and drink a cup of beer with him, which this examine did, telling him, either in his ſhop, or as they went along together, that he had a paper to be printed, which he would deſire this examine to get done. And ſaith, that they went together to Paul's Wharf, and there took water in a pair of oars, and went as far as the New Exchange, and there landed, and went from the water ſide into a houſe in the Strand, where they ſold beer, but knows not what ſign it had, nor can he again find the houſe; and being come into the houſe the ſaid Sturgeon drew forth a writing, containing a ſheet and a half, which was read over between them both, he the ſaid Sturgeon reading ſome part, and he this examine reading the other part. The ſaid writing was entitled, *A ſhort diſcovery of his highneſſe the lord protector's intentions, touching the anabaptiſts in the army, &c.* And having read it all over, the ſaid mr. Sturgeon deſired this examine to get it printed for him, wiſhing him to get it done very privately, and ſaid, that he would take them himſelf, when they were printed; and the examine telling him, that he muſt have 40s. for printing of them, the ſaid Sturgeon answered, that he ſhould have it. And this examine promiſed to have them finiſhed upon the monday after. And this examine being asked, how long they ſtaid together, he ſaith, ſomewhat more than half an hour, and then parted, this examine going home by water, and the other going towards Whitehall. And being come home, he forthwith went to an alehouſe near Puddle Wharf, to one Greers, and ſent for mr. James Cotterell the printer, who forthwith came to him, to whom this examine delivered the aforeſaid writing, deſiring him to print a thouſand copies thereof, which the ſaid Cotterell promiſed to do, and to that purpoſe carried it away with him. And upon the tuesday morning after this examine went to the houſe of the ſaid Cotterell in Addle-hill for the ſaid printed copies, who delivered them to this examine, being in all one thouſand, which this examine brought away with him to his own ſhop, where he kept them untill 3 or 4 of the clock of the ſame day, at which time the ſaid Sturgeon came to his ſhop, and aſkt him for the ſaid printed copies; and this examine did then deliver unto him the ſaid John Sturgeon eight hundred or thereabouts of the ſaid printed copies. And being asked, where this examine delivered the ſaid copies to Sturgeon, he ſaid it was in a little room behind his ſhop, that the ſaid Sturgeon carried them away, he having paid this examine 40s. for the printing of them. The other 200 copies he ſaid he would leave behind him, but gave no directions concerning them, nor doth this examine know, what the ſaid Sturgeon did with thoſe he had away; but ſeveral of them being found in the ſtreets the next morning, and one of them being ſhewn to this examine at the time of his examination, he ſaith, that that was one of the ſaid printed copies of that writing, which he had as aforeſaid from the ſaid Sturgeon, and which was printed, by his directions, as hath been before declared. And this examine further ſaith, that he this examine being apprehended by a meſſenger of the council, and one mr. Clark who came with him from his houſe being alſo in cuſtody, the ſaid mr. Clark ſent for mr. Sturgeon to come unto

The examination of Henry Clarke, August 27, 1655.

[Taken by secretary Thurloe.]

WHO saith, that he being upon wednesday or thursday last at the door of Richard Moone the stationer, the said Richard Moone delivered to this examine a printed sheet of paper, intituled, *A short discovery of his highness the lord protector's intentions, touching the Anabaptists in the army*; and bid him put it in his pocket, which he did, and afterwards read it; and that he found two more of the said sheets in Watling-street, but knows not what he did with them; but conceives he lost two of them out of his pocket. He further saith, that being at Moone's shop upon friday morning, when he was apprehended, he came along with him, and was here apprehended by one of the messengers; and that he and Moone, being in the messenger's hands at the Sun-tavern in King-street, he this examine sent for mr. John Sturgeon, to whose house both he and Moone went that night, by permission of the messenger, and lay there. And being asked, what time they were together with Sturgeon that night, before they went to bed, he saith, that he doth not well remember the time, but saith, that Sturgeon and Moone went together out of the kitchen, to draw beer, leaving this examine behind them; but doth not know what discourse they had; nor did they speak before him of the said pamphlet.

That they went again the next morning unto the messenger, about 7 o'clock.

He further saith, that he knows nothing of the printing the said pamphlet, or the author of it, more than what he said Moone told him upon saturday last, which was, that he had confessed, that he caused it to be printed, and that mr. Sturgeon brought the original to him.

The examination of John Sturgeon, taken before his highness, August 27, 1655.

[Taken by secretary Thurloe.]

WHO being asked, whether he knew, who was the author of a pamphlet, called, or intituled, *A short discovery of his highness the lord protector's intentions, touching the Anabaptists*, he saith, he doth not know. Being asked, who printed the said pamphlet, he saith, he doth not know. Being asked, to whom he gave the original of the said book to be printed, he saith, he did not deliver it to any person. Being asked, how many times he read the pamphlet, he said, about twice, and no more; nor did he read it to any body. Being asked again, he saith, prove it. Being asked, whether he had this said pamphlet in writing in his hands, he saith, he never had. Being asked, how many of the said pamphlets he had in his hands, he saith, two. And being asked, how many more, he saith, let that be proved. Being askt, what if it be proved, that he had 100, or a 1000 of the said pamphlets in his hands? whereto he saith, if you do prove it, you do prove it; and if you do not prove it, you do not prove it. Being asked, whether he knoweth one Moone a printer, he saith he doth; and being asked, whether he had any discourse with him about the said pamphlet, he saith, he had not. Being asked, whether he did not deliver to or receive from the said Moone any of the said pamphlets, he saith he did not. He saith, he had known the said Moone about a year and half, and that he saw him about a fortnight ago, and not since, as he remembers. Being asked, where he saw him last, he then said, that as he now recollected himself, he saw him at the Sun Tavern at King-street, being sent for thither by one mr. Clarke, who is in custody about these books. And being asked, whether he saw him not after, he said, he saw him the next morning at the messenger's. And being asked, if he saw him not between their being at the Sun Tavern and the next morning, he then said he had forgot, for they were at his house, and said, that he told the messenger, that he would undertake for Clarke, but did not well know Moone, but would present them to the messenger in the morning, which he did. And being asked, what discourse they had together, he saith, that Clarke said he dropt 2 or 3 pamphlets, but not intentionally. And being asked, how long they sat up together that night they were within his house, he said, about a quarter of an hour, as he remembers, nor had he any speech with them about the said pamphlet the next day. He saith, he was at Moone's house about 10 days since; and being askt, whether he had any discourse with him about the said pamphlet before he met him at the Sun Tavern, he saith, he did not. He being demanded, whether he did not give him a bargain with him for any money for the printing of it, and whether in particular he did not give 40 s. he saith, he did not. And being asked, whether he did not advise Moone, after he was apprehended, not to confess any thing, but to bid them prove what he should be charged with, he said he did not.

He

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
p. 570.

Vol. xxix.
p. 566.

A. D. 1655. He saith, that he denies, that he ever had any discourse with any of the life-guards about the pamphlet aforesaid, or any of the queries in it; nor hath he ever heard any body say, who was the author of the said book; and denies, that he himself was either directly or indirectly the author of it.

Being asked, whether he had no discourse with corporal Auger or mr. Pinkorne about it, he saith, he had, but it was in the house, as many others spoke of it, which was, that there was such a book abroad, but not otherwise, nor in no other place.

Mr. J. Aldworth, consul at Marseilles, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

Vol. xxix.
p. 586.

MY last unto you was of the 31st past, giving you notice, that an English merchant ship going from Smirna under pretence had a commission against the French, tooke a ship of this place, and discharged goods out of her to the valew of 50,000 pieces of $\frac{8}{11}$, and so let the ship goe; and that the Thollon ships only attended a fayre wind to depart; which advice I doe at present confirme; the Thollon fleete being parted six dayes past, and are doubtles gone to porte Spetia, to hinder the Naples fleete from discharging their foldiers they have to rays the seidge of Pavia, which place, as by my late advise from Genoa in short tyme, wil be surrendred to the duke of Modena for the French. Not any Portugall ships are joyned with the Thollon fleete, or any arriv'd on this coast since their departure. Since my last I have not received any advice from any part of Spayne. This being needfull for present, so most humbly take leave to remayne

Your honnor's servant,

In Marseilles, Sept. 7, 1655. [N. S.]

J. ALDWORTH.

Mr. Geo. Downing to secretary Thurloe.

HONOURABLE SIR,

Vol. xli.
p. 798.

I AM arrived safe at this place (thanks be to God) which is within 6 leagues of Lyons. Thursday morning I intend to goe for Lyons towards Geneva, where I hope to be on satterday at farthest. Yesterday I mett a Frenchman, who was going with the messenger from Lyons for Paris, who told me, he was going for England with letters from mr. Morland. As soon as I get to Geneva, we shall endeavour to inform ourselves of the state of the poor people of the Valleys, and give you the quickest account we can. I am,

Tarras, tuesday, { Aug. 28, }
 { Sept. 7, } 1655.

Sir, your most faithful humble servant,

G. DOWNING.

I hope I shall speedily have some orders meet me at Geneva, wher I shall stay till they come.

Bordeaux to his son, the French ambassador in England.

From * * the 7th of September, 1655.

MY SON,

Vol. xxix.
p. 582.

I HAVE received a letter from our friend at court, wherein he hath sent me a word of all that past upon the discourse of the envoy of England. It seems he did not know of the agreement between the Hugonots and the prince of Savoy. After that they told him, that all was concluded between them, he then said, that there ought to be treated sincerely a peace between France and England; and that hitherto there had not been spoken of any true resolution of a peace, and that you have not desired it; and that there ought to be a peace or an open war. To which his eminence replied, that my lord Cromwell had the ambassador of the king with him, and that he might treat with him. And after that the said envoy was withdrawn, they considered of his discourse, and it was said, that it was a good justification of your conduct, and a great discharge for you, in regard, that his eminence did always believe, that you did endeavour to make a peace with low submissions; and that you did seek to treat, without considering the

honour

honour and reputation of your master. Hereupon it was resolved, that new resolutions should be taken, as soon as they come to Paris, which will be this night, whither I also intend to go, as soon as I shall have received your next letter, to have some discourse with his eminence about your negotiation. And were it not out of love to you, I would finish those few days, which I have to live, in the place where I am. A. D. 1655.

Mr. Bradshaw, resident at Hamburg, to secretary Thurloe.

RIGHT HONORABLE,

THE last weeke I was necessitated to answer your letter by another's hand, it have- Vol. xxix.
inge pleased God then to take my youngest child out of this miserable world into a p. 510.
better. I am now with yours of the 17th instant, and shall remit the inclosed to mr. Rolt by to morrow's post, not doubtinge, but hee is come safe to Stettin, from whence I expect to hear from him daily. The K. of Sweden is in Poland. The weekly paper shewes you, what wee knowe heere of his further proceedings. I am glad to heare, that the poore protestants of Savoy are in hopes, by keepinge in armes, and with the continuance and assistance of their friends, to obtaine better conditions from their tiranicall lord, than hee intended them. Doubtles if men should not, God would revenge their blood. I perceive greater matters will not yet permitt the counsell's resolution in the busines of the company. I am loth to importune my masters; and beinge now off from the company, I am well content to continue soe, waiteinge onely, when it will please his highness to vindicate his owne honour in his servant, beinge well assured of your favour to hasten it, wherein you will much oblige me; for truly I cannot much longer suffer the insolent provocations of some of that debauched partie, who haveinge cast of all humanitie as well as civilitie, forbear nothinge, that may provoake. Witnes their fidlinge, danceinge, and shoutinge, in the English house (in part of which I yet live) severall nights presently after the death of my child, to increase myne and my wife's griefe in lettinge us knowe in soe publique a manner, that all the towne range of it, how much they rejoyced at our affliction, a barbarisme not to be parale'd in America; and when they were desired by some to forbear, they threatened to kick them out of the roome, if they would not be gone. But it may be said, I should doe better, not to note such things. I wish I were endowed with such a measure of patience. However strangers doe and will take notice, though I should not.

Major general Massie came last weeke hither, where he is complimented, feasted, and respected by some of the cheefe of Townley's party, as if he were the best subject the commonwealth hath. Some say, he will take service under the king of Sweden, in order to which he is come hither; but I beleve his cheefe end was to visit his old freinds in the company.

SIR,

By the last post I charged my bill on you for 306 l. 7 s. 4 d. payable to mr. Richard Basson, assigné, beinge disbursed there by me, to furnish out the Elizabeth frigatt. I doubt not, but you will please to order the punctuall acceptance and payment of the bill, that it be not returned to my disparagement. You know merchants are punctuall and tender in their bills of exchange. I here enclose the account of the disbursement, which is all at present, and that I am,

Sir, your very humble servant,

Hamburgh, Aug. 28, 1655.

RICHARD BRADSHAW.

At instant I received the inclosed from mr. Rolt at Stettin, goeing from Posna in Poland, in his way to the king. The Latin paper of newes I have not tyme to translate.

A letter of intelligence.

Dantzick, Sept. 8, [1655. N. S.]

THE Swedes navy is within sight. We have seen 16 ships well manned, which afterwards Vol. xxix.
went out of sight. By and by we heard the noise of their great guns. We think, p. 594.
that Puhikou, a town, in which there is a Polish governor, with a garrison of soldiers, is either already taken, or will be suddenly; from which haven the Swedes may make excursions upon us, and the ships that came in to us without danger.

*A letter of intelligence.*Paris, the { 8 Sept. } 1655.
 { 29 Aug. }A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxx.
P. 475.

I WISH I had some good and pleasing news to impart unto you, but for want of any such, I must be short. We are in an extream confusion, and know not either what to say or do, after the infamous treaty made at Pigneroll, concerning our brethren of Piedmont. We expect to see, and that with impatience, whether his highness my lord protector (after the example of him, who not only heals the sick, but also raises the dead) shall be pleased to remedy it. We hope the business will not be forsaken, nor shall poor men be left under the merciless power of their implacable enemies, who will doubtless take the first opportunity wholly to extirpate them. We hope likewise, that our poor brethren there, if they will be advised, will disown that treaty, and disavow their deputies, whom the threats of France, and the extream fear they had to be deprived of the commerce with their brethren there, and to be forbidden the retreat there, as the French ambassador much pressed upon them, did not cast into that preposterous resolution, and made them hastily consent to such a ruinous treaty. We doubt not, but the mighty means his highness and the states general can make use of for their relief, will be by them employed for that purpose. If that should happen to miss, which I pray God to prevent, I will remain in an everlasting silence, and content my self with weeping for the evil, which I am not able to remedy, &c.

*A letter of intelligence to mr. Petit.*Paris, the { 8 Sept. } 1655.
 { 29 Aug. }Vol. xxix.
p. 600.

WE have no considerable news this week, save those of Poland, where the disorders are greater than ever.

The king being come from his army to La Fere, parted from thence soon after with the whole court, to come to Paris; and having passed by Compeigne, arrived at Chantilli on Sunday night, where the duke of Mantua being gone to meet him, next day he met him hunting, and was exceeding well received by his majesty, who feasted him at supper that night, and arrived here the next day about 5 a clock with the said duke. But it's thought, his sojourn here will be very short, by reason he is resolved to return towards his army, to be present at the strengthening of the conquered places, that they may be in a condition of fearing nothing this winter. Our army is thereabouts, taking some refreshments.

The enemies do so strongly defend themselves in Pavia, that the events of that siege are very uncertain; the rumours of the taking of that place being found false.

The queen of Sweden is going to Rome, and is to part the 10th instant.

It's written from Spain, that a great armado is preparing there, by the merchants contributions, to try to expel general Blake from their coasts, whose neighbourhood is a great hindrance unto them.

There is at present a vote in court, whether prince Thomas shall be sent for to come back. I hear many are for his return. Mr. Downing is gone for Geneva.

The Venetian ambassador appointed for England is also departed from court for London.

It's said the Flemings have complained in Spain of the ill-carriage of Archduke Leopold, having represented, that if it had not been for the prince of Condé's valour, they might have all been subdued by our army. Whereupon the king of Spain has permitted them to raise an army for their own liking.

It's written from Madrid, in date of the 3d of August N. S. that the queen was still with child; that the commander of Salvatierra in Portugal had remitted that place into the hands of the Spaniards; and that 1500 High-Dutch, sent by the archduke Leopold in Catalonia, were arrived at St. Sebastian's.

Cardinal Mazarin to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in England.

Paris, Sept. 8, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxix.
p. 491.

I HAVE received your letter of the 29th of August. You will have seen by the last letters of the earl of Brienne, that not only the business of Lucerne was made an end of, but likewise executed; and that those people there have obtained more through the

the intercession of the king, than they demanded. Now we must see what resolution the protector will take. In the mean time you have but to continue your conduct towards him in the manner as you do. A. D. 1655.

I have just now received your letter of the 2d of this month, which doth not oblige me to any answer; for if the signing of the treaty did depend upon the accommodation of the Vaudois, it will be now performed, for the accommodation is now executed, to the great joy and satisfaction of the people there.

A proclamation of the governor of Barbados.

BARBADOS.

HIS highness Oliver, lord protector of the commonwealth of England, Scotland, Vol. xxix. and Ireland, and dominions thereunto belonging, taking notice, that several delinquents and offenders sent over to this island by his highness's express command, here to remain, have obtained ways and means, by their aiders, abettors, assisters, and countenancers, to get off this island, and are again returned into their own countries: wherefore considering how greatly it may tend to the prejudice and disservice of the commonwealth, and how the consequences thereof may prove dangerous, for the prevention of which for the future,

These are in the name and by his said highness's special command, strictly to charge and require all and every such person and persons, so brought hither, not to depart hence, without leave first had and obtained from his highness and council; and that no person or persons whatsoever do presume to abet, countenance, or assist any such, in any kind, in their going off, or escaping from this island, on pain of his highness's displeasure, and such penalties, for their contempt, as the nature of the fact and their disobedience to his highness's commands therein shall require.

And to the intent his highness's pleasure and commands herein may be the better observed and kept, and the qualities and condition of all persons that shall go off this island known, it is ordered, that all and every master and commander of ship, bark, boat, or other vessel, now being and riding at anchor in any of the bays, roads, ports, or creeks of this island, or shall hereafter come or arrive to the same, do not presume to carry off any person or persons whatsoever, without special licence, under the penalty of the forfeiture of one thousand pounds sterling, according to a law here in that case made and provided. And all and every such master and commander, as aforesaid, are further required, within twenty and four hours after their arrival to this island, to enter into bond, in the secretaries office, in the said sum, for the true observance hereof; and not to be admitted to trade, until the same hath been performed.

And that all and every person or persons whatsoever, dwelling or inhabiting in or about this island, that is or shall be owner or commander of any bark, boat, shallop, skiff, or wherry, shall, within eight days after the publication hereof, become bound in the secretaries office in the sum of five hundred pounds sterling to his highness the lord protector, that they shall not carry any person or persons, of what quality or condition soever, from this island; or any way permit or lend his or their bark, boat, wherry, or shallop, so to do, without special order from the governor, upon the penalty of being disabled from keeping of any boat, bark, shallop, or wherry, and having it drawn up and made useless. And that they do not sell, alienate, or otherwise dispose of his or their said boat, bark, shallop, or wherry, to any person or persons, without special licence from the governor first had and obtained. Given under my hand, this twenty and ninth day of August, one thousand six hundred fifty and five.

Fleetwood, lord deputy of Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

THERE was an order in Aprill from his highness, prohibiting lieutenant general Ludlowe's coming into England; and since that time I have not received any other order, though I did acquaint you, that he had libertie upon his engagement to waite upon his highness by the 10th of September; and he haveing very pressing occasions of very neere concernment to himselfe to returne into England, thereupon I have adventured to give him libertie therein. I have acquainted the council heere with what I have done in this business. I have inclosed sent a coppye of his engagement. I know his restraint heere, if he had not come, would have bine more disservice to my lord protector, then it can

A. D. 1655. be in England; and not haveing conceived any answere to what I formerly sent to you in this business, I hold my selfe the more free hereunto. This I thought fitt to give you an account of, and remaine

Your humble servant,

August 29, 1655.

CHARLES FLEETWOOD.

Lieutenant general Ludlowe's engagement.

Vol. xxix.
p. 642.

WHEREAS I have lately received a command for my restraint from going into England, yett nevertheles the lord deputie of Ireland taking into his consideration the pressing necessities, which lyeth upon me for the settling of my affaires in England, and he permitting my repaire thither, I doe heereby engage, that I will not advise, contrive, consent, abett, or act, directly or indirectly, any thing to the prejudice or disturbance of the present government under his highnes the lord protector, unles before I shall advise, contrive, consent, abett, or act as abovesaid, directly or indirectly, any thing to the disturbance of the said government, I shall render myselfe personally unto his highnes, or to the said lord deputie, and desire to be from this engagement. Dated at the Phoenix, August 29, 1655.

EDMUND LUDLOWE.

H. Cromwell, *major general of the army in Ireland, to secretary Thurloe.*

August 29, 1655.

SIR,

Vol. xxix.
p. 638.

I Received yours of the 21st instant, and notwithstandinge the little hopes you give us of the sudden returne of our foote to us, we are uppon the worke of disbandeing, and are settinge them uppon their landes. I gave you an account in my laste of the resolutions, toucheinge bothe the persons that are to be reduced, and the time declared, when such whoe are disbanded shall be out of the pay of the publike, which is, as I take it, the laste of this monthe. Never soe great a worke was performed with soe much quiett. I beleewe we reduce neer 5000 men, and as good souldiers as are in the three nations. I am afraid fewe of them will betake themselves to plantinge; if you could find out some employment for them abroad, it would be of good service to the publike. I am sorry the scales are soe longe delayed: wee have wanted the ordinary way of justice heer a longe time. Justice Cooke and Donelan want their patents for punie judges, as you call them. I could have wished mr. Cary would have come over; surely some body may be founde to supply that defect. I hope you are not unmindefull of a solicitor.

I understande by some letters to my brother Fleetwood, that collonel Cooper is taken of frome his Scotch employment, and that there are some thoughts to send him hither to head general Venables regiment. They will deserve a worthy person, and indeed the place wheer they are settled, as able a mane and as honest as you cane gett, the Scots interest groweing their very faste, and noe body to ballance them; and to deale ingeniously, wee have noe body fitt for it. I doe not think you could doe better, then to send collonel Cooper for this worke, he beinge ane honest goode mane. I have hinted somethinge to his highnes of Allen's correspondinge heer, and representinge thinges in the worst sence; and therefore offer that he might be sent frome London; and likewise lieutenant general Ludlowe's over-earnestness to come for England. If you should give him leave, you would finde him very troublesome; and that you would be necessitated to deale with him, as you have done with Harrison, which would but make him considerable. He declares it, that he will not be under any obligation, because he does not knowe, but that God may give ane opportunity for him to appear for the libertie of the people. He is verry high, and much dissatisfied, and therefore their ought to be further care what is done as to him. I am

Your affectionate humble servant,

HEN. CROMWELL;

Bordeaux,

Bordeaux, *the French ambassador in England, to count Brienne.*

Sept. 9, 1655. [N. S.]

MY LORD,

HAVING an occasion at the beginning of the last week to send to the secretary of state, I signified unto him the accommodation of those of the Vallies with the duke of Savoy. He was only pleased to say, that my news was true. Since this the express of mr. Downing arrived. I sent him word, in the absence of my commissioners, that I had received order to signify unto the lord protector, that his recommendation to the king was followed with the same effect, which could be expected. He did receive this compliment with much coolness and trouble of mind, taking only upon him to make report thereof. It seems they are generally troubled, that the peace should be made without their interposition; and I do see in all their pamphlets, that they do affect to weaken the merit of the offices, which monsieur Servien hath done, and to impute unto him that by threatenings he did force the Vaudois to accept of the declaration of the duke of Savoy, which is very disadvantageous unto them; yea, they proceed so far as to accuse the ambassadors of Switzerland, that they did suffer themselves to be corrupted; from whence one may judge, that his majesty will receive but little thanks from hence for what he hath done.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
p. 608.

Sir Henry Vane to secretary Thurloe.

SIR,

YOURS from Whitehall of 25th instant I have received, and have accordingly signified the directions therein contained into the administrator, who thereupon does continue here in expectation to heare from collonel Berry; unto which great favour of yours already received I must still desire this addition, that the hastning thereof, as your letter intimates, may be effectually; and that I may againe put you in minde of what I suppose is already in collonel Berry's instructions, as incident to the removall of the armes from this place, that the souldiers may be commanded off likewise. For all which, as well as former civilitys received from you when I was last at London, I esteeme myself obliged to all dew acknowledgements, when it may lye in the power of him, who is

Raby Castle, August
30, 1655.

Your very affectionat
and humble servant,
H. VANE.

At the council at Whitehall.

Thursday, August 30, 1655.

SIR Gilbert Pickering makes report from the committee of the council, to whom the several petitions of the town of Colchester are referred: on consideration whereof, and of the advice given the said committee by the commissioners of the treasury in this case, ordered, that it is offered to his highness, as the advice of the council, that a letter be written to the town of Colchester, signifying his highness's pleasure, that they proceed to the election of such officers as usually they have done, having respect in the said election to the peace and good government of the town; and that within four days after such election, they present to his highness the names of the persons elected by them, to be approved by his highness before they be sworn, the same being by the charter not to be done till Michaelmas.

Vol. xxix.
p. 692.

HENRY SCOBELL, clerk of the council.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

Sept. 4, 1655. [N. S.]

THIS day there was report made of what the resident of Poland hath proposed at the conference, which in effect is only in generals, without having specialized any thing, only that he made complaint of the iniquity of the Swedes. Now the deputies of this

Vol. xxix.
p. 470.

Vol. III.

9 D

state

A. D. 1655. state being only authorized simply to hear him, and to make report thereof, as they have done, we must expect what will be further done herein at the next meeting of the states of Holland. The same is also done with the elector, with the letter from the elector of Brandenburg, expecting the act of ratification.

It is said, that the lord of Brederode is fallen into a lethargy.

September 6.

It is assured, that the lord of Brederode dyed on friday last the 3d in the afternoon.

For the charge of mareschal, I hear, that prince Maurice would not be a competitor of prince William's, to avoid prejudicing the common interest of their family.

In that resolution of the second of August is to be seen, how pleasingly they would make the Turks to believe, that those of Ostend, Blankenberg, and Dunkirk, do drive a trade in the Levant, where they have abundance of merchantmen; as some years since those of the East India company made the king of Japan to believe, that the Portugals were Christians, but that the Hollanders were not Christians, in regard that name was odious.

The design of the most powerful party is to put the government of Boisseduc into the hands of the lord of Wynbergen, and that of Escluse into the hands of the lord of Somerdyck, to the end to make all Zealand to be governed by the wise conduct of the lord of Somerdyck, who with the lord Tybaut would govern all Zealand for the good of the prince's party.

Those of Groningen recommend the lord Byma for the government of Boisseduc.

Those of Holland recommend, or have recommended the lord of Brederode, of Duyvenvorde, of Nortwyck, for the said government. Those of Holland have admonished the province, to declare themselves upon the instruction for the sending into Denmark. They have promised to declare themselves to morrow. The resident de Vries hath writ from the Sound, amongst the rest, that the minister of Sweden had summoned the king of Denmark very seriously, in effect, whether he would join with Sweden or this state, to give or refuse the passage through the Sound. Upon which the king had writ to his ministers here. The states general have deputed some to speak to the Danish ministers here about it; as also upon what the said de Vries hath writ, that he did demand of the king the passage for the fleet of this state through the Sound, for which he had no order.

A French private man of war did pursue a ship of Flanders as far as the Wieling, where a captain of a Zealand man of war endeavouring to hinder such hostility, he came in his boat to the French party, thinking to have come aboard of him; but he killed the Zealand captain, which having incensed the Zealanders, they made a shift to seize upon the French pirate, taking all her men prisoners (except 15) in all likelihood to hang them.

September 8.

The dowager of Brederode hath writ a letter to the states general, signifying the death of the earl of Brederode her husband, recommending her two sons to the service of the states, for the third or the youngest (to whom the generality was god-father) was dead. They have not yet made any mention of conferring the vacant charge. The magistrate of Boisseduc hath writ, rememorating their capitulation, and that in pursuance of the same they may not have any other given them for their governor, than one that is a born Brabantson, or one of the house of Nassaw.

Advice being given of the arrival of an envoy from Moscovy, they have ordered the agent de Heyde to receive him, and to lodge him in the Castellany.

Yesterday there was a conference held with the ministers of Denmark, as well upon the known pretences, as upon the letter of the resident de Vries.

The provinces are to declare themselves to day upon the instruction for the sending towards Denmark.

They have re-begun the business for the liquidation of East Friesland.

There was but one advice of the council of state concerning the militia, which during this season of the summer hath been in garrison between the Eems and the Rhyne, for fear of the Swedes.

Holland hath insisted of late, in regard that (the season being past) those troops be sent back to their old quarters, not desiring that so great body of the militia should be upon the frontiers, which do depend very much upon prince William.

This business was referred to the advice of the council. The council hath advised, that for the horse they might be withdrawn and sent back to their old garrisons; but that it was necessary for the foot to continue a while longer, because, if need be, they cannot get the foot so soon back again, as they can the horse. The advice is not yet followed, but it will be observed.

Hitherto there is not yet any thing done upon the instruction and sending towards Denmark. Likewise there hath not been any thing spoken this week of the fleet of 16 ships. A. D. 1655.

September 9.

The envoy of Muscovy is to have audience to day. He hath a train of fine persons: he is only the bearer of a letter. He asked, whether they did not acknowledge his emperor for the greatest man on earth; and whether they would not treat him as the minister of such a one. They told him, that they had treated all those, who had been here before him, to their content, every one according to their conditions; and that he should be received after the same manner. He brings no present nor furs. He lays the excuse by reason of the wars. He saith, that his emperor or czar is in the field with a million of men. That makes well for the king of Sweden, for this will cause jealousy against the Muscovite, and will lessen that, which all men have against Sweden. There is great likelihood, that they speak of sending embassies, as well towards Sweden, Poland, Muscovy, as towards Denmark. They have yet failed of declaring themselves concerning the instruction for the envoy into Denmark, the business not having been pressed or urged by those of Holland; but they have resolved to fall upon the business to morrow, and then to declare themselves.

As for the alteration of the garrisons, they have followed the advice of the council of state, that the horse shall be sent back to their old garrisons; but that the foot shall remain yet a while in the garrisons between the Rhine and the Eems.

The envoy of Muscovy, after the reciting of the titles of his emperor (wherein he failed and stammered for some time) hath proposed but three things; the first was, that his emperor sent to know how the states general did: the second, that his lord esteemed this state for the most powerfull of all the states; and thirdly, that he desired to be defrayed by the state.

September 10.

The envoy of Muscovy having asked and obtained to day a new audience, said, that he thought, that they would have asked him yesterday, whether he had nothing more to propose; and that therefore in this new audience he ought to propose, and that he doth demand twenty thousand muskets, and a ship of war to transport them to Archangel. He did also play the rodomontade in this discourse, saying, that his emperor had drawn away a great number of Tartars, who were going to serve the king of Poland. That his emperor had already conquered the best part of Poland. That he was also going to take Livonia.

It is conceived, that the transportation is the contents of his letter; and I perceive, that (in favour of Poland) they will make some difficulty at this transportation.

The president hath admonished the provinces to declare themselves upon the instructions for Denmark; but that is suspended till to morrow.

I do hear, that prince Maurice doth also declare himself for the charge of marechal of camp; and prince William is coming hither in person for the same subject.

A letter of intelligence from the Hague.

SIR,

well affected of Holland

THE 173 do find themselves very much troubled for the capital charge over the militia; for whether that it be called marechal of camp, or whether it be called captain Vol. xxix. p. 612.

general, he is head of the militia; and therefore 105 and 173 would Amsterdam

willingly abolish that charge; but I have no great opinion of it, for I know 112 and their maxims; and besides, he that hath there the chiefest direction is of the privy council of Frieland prince of Orange

168 and 148.

grave William

states general

The 149 hath writ with much civility and humanity, not only to 105, but likewise to well affected in Holland

the other 173 in particular.

grave William

prince of Orange

And if 149 doth obtain this charge, they are and will be as much under the 148 or their army

house as ever; for whosoever hath the 131 hath all; *arma tenenti omnia dat, qui iusta*

protector

negat; and besides, how is it possible then to preserve the amity with 130?

But

A. D. 1655. But since that I have seen, that ^{Amsterdam} 112 hath so blindly run themselves *ad servitium*,
^{Denmark} of the Orange party ^{royalist} 142 and 170 (who are the chief ^{Amsterdam} 145 and 146 of all the world) I cannot any
longer imagine myself, that 112 have any constancy, and that it were far better that they
^{prince of Orange} forthwith take 148, for during his minority they will yet have some moderation, and
^{Amsterdam} have share in the management. And besides they would see what 112 would have; but
^{Amsterdam} now they do not follow that which 112 would have, yea, they themselves do not know
^{Bremen} what they would have, as I believe, for all is done but by halves, as formerly with 158;
^{Dantzick} ^{Dantzick} ^{Bremen} so likewise at present with 166, as is said, 166 was to send to us; I answer 158 did send;
besides there was an interest of alliance, of commerce, of neighbourhood, and of reli-
^{Dantzick} gion; yet hath there been for all this one man sent? 166 have their reasons why they
^{alliance} ^{states general} do not send, and likewise why they do not subscribe the 155 made between 104 and
^{Brandenburg} 170.

^{states general} ^{states of Holland} ^{Amsterdam}
In the mean time 104 and 105 and 112 do very well know, that the
^{a fleet} ^{Dantzick} ^{Amsterdam} coming of 134 would be very acceptable to 166; but it seems that 112 would well
^{Dantzick} ^{Bremen} that 166 should be brought to terms of despair: for to ruin themselves (as 158) and
^{Dantzick} ^{Amsterdam} ^{Amsterdam} that by this means the ruin of 166 would make for 112: indeed 112 is unfatiable, and
^{Hans towns} ^{commerce} cannot endure, that the 156 have any 179, which is a certain way of proceeding; one must
^{Amsterdam} live and let another live also; and it is a strange thing to see, that the care of 112 should
extend so far, and in the mean time to take such little heed of businesses near at hand. Yea
at present I can tell you, that there is a certain kind of mutiny in hand amongst the chief
military officers (colonels, lieutenant colonels, and majors) having resolved to make known
the ill usage, which they receive, in regard they are not paid their allowances.
It is true, that Holland is slow to pay those allowances, but those officers have each
a good company, whereof they can live, and these charges of colonels, and lieutenant co-
lonels, and majors in peace are altogether unnecessary, and Holland would abolish them;
^{of the Orange party} but the provinces 145 do force Holland through the plurality of votes to continue those
charges; so that in effect those allowances is money flung into the water, yea worse; for
^{the Orange party} it is to nourish a serpent *in sinu*, in regard all these great officers are 154, and you cannot
^{grave William} believe how boldly those officers speak; and as soon as they shall have 149 for head, they
will yet speak louder; and thus you see how ill they do manage their business. I am

Your most humble servant.

September 10, 1655.

Chanut, the French ambassador in Holland, to Bordeaux, the French ambassador in
England.

Hague, September 10, 1655, [N. S.]

MY LORD,

Vol. xxix.
p. 650.

I HAVE received your letter of the 3d of this month. I did not know, that the magni-
ficence of my lord Bond was occasioned through the revolt of two palatinates in Po-
land. In regard it is not our custom to make bonfires for treason, I forgive him for hav-
ing spared the fireworks: but if we take Pavia, against the opinion of the most of
Italy,

Italy, what shall you and I do? My lord, I pray let me know your intention, if it be so A. D. 1655. that we take it, to the end I may not be far inferior to what you will do. But it may be you will have a greater occasion of publick rejoicing, whereof London will participate, in regard there remains now nothing to hinder the conclusion of your treaty, the Huguenots having obtained favour and pardon of their sovereign, through the intercession of the king. Should it be possible, that there can yet lie hid underground some new cause of delay, at a time when the protector doth disoblige Spain, and when many reasons should induce him to make friends, and that we, God be thanked, are not altogether contemptible? I expect your next letters with impatience. We have the news of the death of the mareschal camp of these provinces, the earl of Bredorode. Now his charge is lookt upon as a subject, which will occasion great dissensions amongst the provinces.

The order is, that it is to be bestowed by plurality of votes; but Holland perceiving, that count William will have 4 votes of the 7 on his side, doth pretend to cause the same to be abolished as unnecessary in times of peace. The pretenders to it are, count William, governor of Friesland, and count Maurice of Nassau, lieutenant general of the horse.

The resident of Poland doth insist hard for some assistance of men or money; but it is thought he will not obtain any thing.

The king of Sweden having joined all his forces in a body was marcht therewith towards Warsaw; and that after three days march he made a stay, not daring to venture too far into the enemies country: the Poles have a considerable army on foot. The king of Sweden is not yet sure of the duke of Brandenburg, who will not deprive himself of his strong places in Prussia, but hath sent the earl of Valdeck to secure them. That Prince hath an army of ten thousand men in Pomerania. The emperor is likewise raising forces, and will hardly suffer the said king to go away with the conquest of Poland. But above all, the Muscovite is to be feared, whose name is terrible, and who hath already made known in Lithuania, that he will not leave much to the protection of Sweden.

Nieuport, the Dutch ambassador in England, the greffier Ruysch.

MY LORD,

Y^esterday there came to me in a coach sir Charles Wolfeley, and the lord Strickland, with Vol. xxix. the secretary Jessop; and perceiving, that the lords did not think fit to speak first, I p. 660. told them, that the secretary of state had acquainted me, that their lordships were ordered to confer with me concerning several memorandums delivered in by me; and the said lords replying thereupon, by way of excuse, that they had been hindered through many busineses of consequence, and that therefore to that end they were come to me; I told their lordships, that there were three things chiefly presented in all my memorandums. First, the great damage, which the subjects and inhabitants of their high and mighty lordships have suffered, by having their ships and goods seized upon, near, or about the Barbadoes. Secondly, the excess, which is daily committed in bringing in of ships and goods belonging to the said subjects into the ports and harbours of England, as well by private men of war, as the ships in the service of this state. And lastly, that there might be once some articles agreed upon for a maritime treaty, whereby both sides shall have to govern themselves, that so the like inconveniences may be avoided for the future.

Upon the first, I said, that by an act of parliament made in October 1650, the commerce and navigation to the Barbadoes, Virginia, Bermudas, and Antegua was prohibited in general, as well to the natives as strangers, upon the forfeiture of ships and goods, because they would acknowledge the government then erected in England, as the same was clearly expressed in the articles themselves, which I exhibited. But since that the said plantation and islands have submitted themselves upon certain conditions and articles, in the 9th whereof it is expressly stipulated, that they might freely trade with all nations, which are in amity with England; and that the said articles were afterwards ratified by the parliament; and that the lord protector in his government hath expressly declared, that all such articles shall stand good, so that I told them I could not perceive but that the commerce to the said islands was lawful and permitted, in regard there hath not been any prohibition made since to the contrary. I added moreover, that there ought to be a firm correspondence between the two nations, without any exception of any place whatsoever, according to the contents of the last treaty of peace; concluding that the seizing of the said ships near the Barbados was done contrary to all right and reason; and the ships and goods ought to be restored to the owners.

Sir Charles Wolfeley replied, that no general or governor could grant any articles, which were contrary to the laws of England; that by an act of parliament the commerce or navigation to the Barbados was prohibited, and that in the treaty of peace the precautions in several articles were fixed; that the commerce in Europe alone should be

A. D. 1655. re-established between both. To this I made a reply, that I did not conceive, that in the treaty there was any prohibition or law to hinder us from trading thither. Besides I told them, that whereas it is mentioned in the act, that all such ships so taken are to be brought for England, and to be tried in the court of admiralty, instead thereof they had taken the men out of the ships, and carried them to the West Indies, although many of them had not been ashore, and the rest had leave from the governor and government. Thereupon he said, that the same must be made to appear to be so. I told him what the ill consequences would be, if our men in the East Indies and other places should use their men in the same manner. To the second, concerning some particular complaints, I desired, that the ship the Hare in the Field, also the Frog, might be both released, being both of Middleburgh; the last belonging to none but the subjects of their high and mighty lordships, and taken by a private man of war, and detained for some months by very unjust practices, notwithstanding the perishableness of the commodities. I likewise desired the releasement of the Thirsty Hart, as also that of the Cross of Jerusalem; all which I told them did seem very strange to me. And coming to the last point, I told them, how that long since certain articles by special order of their high and mighty lordships were delivered unto them, which articles were grounded upon such grounds as this state itself had thought to insert in the treaties with Portugal and others; which articles would undoubtedly tend to the peace and welfare of both sides.

The said lords promised me faithfully to report all that I had acquainted them with, and to procure me an answer as soon as possible.

An intercepted letter of sir George Ratcliff to mr. Trapps.

Paris, September 10, 1655. [N. S.]

Vol. xxix.
p. 668.

THIS day is the news fresh here, that the peace is made between France and England; but we hear nothing of war between England and Spain. What doth the Spanish ambassador at London? We had a notable alarm the last week from the prince of Condé in Hainault, where he is said to be 24000 strong, which is twice the number of the French army. The king went hence in great hast towards la Fere, to be near the army, and to keep his men together, who had rather be in their French quarters, than in the field at this time of the year. In Catalonia the French have received a great defeat from the Spaniard, so as the Spaniard is in heart for his success both there and in Italy, and in the West Indies; and they are in hopes to recover some of their places lost this summer towards Flanders. This perhaps hath made the French more willingly to conclude a peace with the protector. And it is a sign, that France means not to have a peace with Spain, though the pope doth press it exceedingly; and they are sending hence three great men to Rome to treat about it.

Translated out of two letters written from Amsterdam to Manoel Martin Dormido, otherwise called David Abrabanel, dated September 10, 1655. N. S.

Vol. xxix.
p. 672.

FROM Spain are gone forth 28 ships of war under the conduct of the general don Paulo de Contreros, in whose absence the earl of Molina doth carry the baston. They carry in all 1010 pieces of artillery or guns, the greatest part of brass. The men they carry are about eleven thousand, ten fire ships; and they say the Neapolitan squadron is in Almaria, and import 24 ships of war, 8 gallies, and some fire ships, with intention to join all in prosecution of the English fleet. God grant that they never enjoy their expectations, those wicked papists; and that his highness may remain in his arms victorious, and enjoy great success for the good of his people.

DAVID NASY.

The other letter saith thus.

BY letters from Saint Malo, which came by this post, they write, that there was arrived a frigot, which came from Cadiz on the 13th of August new stile, and brought for news concerning the fleet, that the 15th ditto was to put to sea from Cadiz to seek the English, the Spanish fleet, who had intelligence, that the English had watered in Braroda adjoining to Faro upon the coast of Portugal, whom they had order to demand, wherefore they crossed the seas. The said fleet consists of 27 ships of war, the most Spanish

Spanish great ships, which carry 1010 pieces of ordnance, and 11400 men, and 10 fire ships, and 29 long great boats and shot. The Levant fleet was on the coast of Granada, in the port of Almeria, consisting of 24 ships of war, 10 fire ships, and 9 gallies. God prosper his highness's forces, and of that commonwealth, which doth favour our nation.

MANOEL GRASIAN.

A letter from Amsterdam.

Honourable and worthy gentlemen,

THIS day eight days I had the honour to wait on you with my correspondence, since Vol. xxix. which I have received no news from you. The burgomaster Witzzen arrived the p. 658. day before yesterday safe at Texel, but is not yet come to town, where, the Lord help us, the sudden distempers continue still very much, and cause a great hindrance to trade; for although there arrived here ships from several parts with rich cargoes, yet there is but little demand: add to this the new and bloody war in Poland, where every thing runs to ruin and distraction, there appearing as yet no mediators, who endeavour to accommodate matters. This week an envoy of Russia passed through here going to the Hague, to communicate the manifesto of the war. And by these bad times and conjunctures, some considerable bankruptcies have also happened, and other inconveniencies and disorders, and our East India stocks do not rise at all. Here are some men of war ready to go to the Baltick; but for some considerations, and speculations, or because something is still expected first, they do not proceed; however, the letters which are to morrow to arrive from the East, may perhaps cause some resolution to be concluded upon, especially since the season may else be over. Wherewith, worthy sirs, I pray to the Almighty to grant you health and a long life, and me the grace to remain

Amsterdam, Sept. 10,
1655. [N. S.]

Your honours

most humble and obliged servant,

N. HUYKRIDER.

Col. Humfrey to Sir Oliver Fleming.

EVER HONORED SIR,

IT is, and I hope ever shall be, the greatest of my care, to express my thanckfull Vol. xxix. acknowledgments to you for those unexpressable favours you were pleased to shew mee, p. 682. when I had the honour to waite on you. I shall be bould to give you this short account of our voyage hitherto, which was thus. Wee were six weeks and five dayes from Plymouth to the Barbadoes, in all which time wee had not a breath of contrary winde, nor an houre of foule weather, but might have come in a Gravefend barge all the way for winde and weather, havinge a trade winde all the way, as they call it. And as an addition to our mercyes, wee have not lost one man by the way, and but few are sick. The intelligence wee finde here from our army in the shamefull route they received in theirre approachinge Domingoe doth much trouble us, and wee hope will keepe our spiritts low and humble befor that great God, that orders his dispensations accordinge to his blessed will; and wee trust will, when he hath humbled us sufficiently, honnour us with victories and glory, as wee now are covered with shame. Our stay in this island is only to water and refres a litle: for recruits to the compleatinge my regiment they are not to be had here, but wee are sending two shippes to St. Kristopher's with officers, to try what may be done there, beeing assured wee may have more there then wee shall neade, and our fleete will follow within few dayes, soe that wee hope to be with the army within 20 dayes at furthest, and trust wee shall be enabled to act as servants worthy to be owned by soe victorriouse a master as wee serve, whose glory and dominion wee thirst more to enlarge, then the preservation of our lives. I am sure for my parte I speake truth, and know there are many of my mind, if not all with mee. Thus craving pardon for this bouldnes, I humbly subscribe myselfe

Your most humble servant,

Barbadoes, August 31, 1655.

J. HUMFREY.

Extract

Extract of a letter from London, August 31. 1655.

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxix.
p. 550.

I DO not believe, that the emperor will raise so soon forty thousand men, if he be not refreshed with a good wind from the South; at least I am of opinion, that the soldiers cannot long subsist without that favourable wind of the South, which they will hinder here to blow very much; for admiral Blake hath suffered thirty Spanish ships, with five fire ships to pass by him, to look after the silver fleet, which he might have prevented; but he followed them afterwards to fight, and ruin them. Likewise the fleet, which is at amaiica, is very strong, and doth cause great fear to the silver fleet. And besides they are equipping here another great fleet to send with a great recruit of ten thousand men, at whose arrival they were resolved to assault the heart of the Indies, that is to say, the place where the fleet is kept. God bless them, and send all may make for his glory and the good of the common cause. The treaties with the Swede do not advance much here, in regard they do not believe, they do aim at the common good, and besides in regard they are Lutherans. It would be best for the elector of Brandenburg to endeavour to obtain an alliance with the protector: he would benefit much by it, and make very much against the Swedes. It were to be wished, that other protestant princes would endeavour to advance the common cause, which I am assured the protector doth very much endeavour, and takes to heart.

General Blake to the protector.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

Vol. xxix.
p. 680.

Y E sterday I sent away by the Merlin frigatt a packett (of which there comes herewith a duplicate) giving your highnes an account of the proceedings and condition of the fleet under my command. Since that the Taunton frigate is arrived with mr. Thomas Mainard, whome I have dispatcht away in the Hampshire, to give your highnes an account of his negotiation. I have nothing to add of my owne as touching that busines, having not received any other instruction or direction, but to appoint the frigatt to carry him to and from Lisbon; and upon her returne unto mee, to send him forthwith unto your highnes, to give an account of what he hath done in pursuance of the instructions given him; neither shall I trouble your highnes any more with my sad apprehensions of our present condition. I hope your highnes will not take amisse the passionate expressions already made, as proceeding from a sincere and honest heart. The Lord Almighty preserve your highnes, and this your fleet, and all the concernements of the nation in your hands; which is and shall be the prayer of

Your highnes most humble

Aboard the George in Castais road,
August 31, 1655.

and obedient servant,

ROBERT BLAKE.

General Penn to the protector.

MAYE IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESSE,

Vol. xxix.
p. 686.

M Y last was by the Cardiffe from Jamica, wherein I gave your highnesse an account of what shippes were thought fitt to stay there, and of those which were to come in this fleet. Wee sett sayle from that place the 25th of June, and kept company till the 13th of July, when as about 10 leagues from the Havana the ship Parragon tooke fire (as is conceived, about or in the steward-roome) and in two hours space, notwithstanding all endeavours, her masts and upper worke being burnt, the powder in a twinkling tooke that sad spectacle from our eyes, but not the greif from our hearts. About 100 persons perished in the water, and with them the probability of finding out the secondary cause and unhappy instruments of that doleful accident. About the same time, the Heart's-ease, Tulip, and Gillyflower, were severed from us, and not as yet mett with. The rest of us came, and kept together neer the Land's end, and one wednesday, giving chase with this shipp to a French shipp of 200 tuns, come from Greenland with some trayne-oyle, wee tooke her, but lost sight of our own shippes, which this day wee mett with againe, they keeping on their course. As to my coming home, it was somewhat against my inclination to leave your highnesse service in these parts; but was advised, and at length perswaded (by some, upon whose spiritts it lay, that my departure for England might

might be more requisite for your highnesse service than my stay there) to addresse my selfe A. D. 1655.
for the same at home; and first of all to render your highnesse an account of transactions
and affaires at the place wee come from. I am now awayting only for your highnesse
commands, which have alwayes been gratefull to mee, in that they have still given oc-
casion to expresse my selfe

Your highnesse very ready

Swiftsure, Spithead,

Aug. 31. 1655.

and most humbly faithfull servant,

WILLIAM PENN.

Vice-admiral Goodson I have left to command in chiefe; reare-admirall Dakins was last
commander of the Paragon, and is now here.

The protector to the town of Colchester.

TRUSTY and well beloved, we greet you well. Taking notice, that some petitions Vol. xxix.
from several persons touching the town of Colchester and the government are now p. 690.
depending before our council, which (in respect of the nature thereof) cannot be suddenly
determined; and being withall advertised, that the time appointed by your charter for
electing of magistrates for that corporation is monday next; we have thought fit hereby
to signify to you our will and pleasure, that you proceed to election of officers for the said
town, as usually you have done, having respect in the said election to the peace and good
government of the town; and that within four days after such election, you present to us
the names of the persons elected, to be approved by us, before they be sworn. And so
bid you farewell. Given at Whitehall this 31st day of August, 1655.

A proclamation of the protector relating to Jamaica.

WHereas, by the good providence of God, our fleet, in their late expedition into America, Vol. xxvi.
have possesed themselves of a certain island, called Jamaica, spacious in its extent, p. 460.
commodious in its harbours and rivers within itself, healthful by its situation, fertile in
the nature of the soyl, well stored with horses and other cattel, and generally fit and
worthy to be planted and improved, to the advantage, honour and interest of this
nation:

And whereas divers persons, merchants, and others heretofore conversant in plantations
and the trade of the like nature, are desirous to undertake and proceed upon plantations
and settlements upon that island:

We therefore, for the better encouragement of all such persons so inclined, have by
the advice of our council taken care, not only for the strengthening and securing of
that island from all enemies, but for the constituting and settling of a civil government,
by such good laws and customs, as are and have been exercised in colonies and places
of the like nature, have appointed surveyors and other publick officers, for the more
equal distribution of publick right and justice in the said island.

And for the further incouragement to the industry and good affection of such persons,
we have provided and given orders to the commissioners of our customs, that every plan-
ter or adventurer to that island shall be exempt and free from paying any excise or
custom for any manufactures, provisions, or any other goods or necessaries, which he
or they shall transport to the said island of Jamaica, within the space of seven years
to come from Michaelmas next.

And also that sufficient caution and security be given by the said commissioners, that
such goods shall be delivered at Jamaica only. And we have also, out of our special
consideration of the welfare and prosperity of that island, provided, that no customs,
or other tax or impost be laid or charged upon any commodity, which shall be the produce
and native growth of that island, and shall be imported into any of the dominions be-
longing to this commonwealth: which favour and exemption shall continue for the space
of ten years, to begin and be accounted from Michaelmas next. We have also given
our speciall orders and directions, that no imbargo or other hinderance, upon any pretence
whatsoever, be laid upon any ships, seamen, or other passengers or adventurers, which
shall appear to be engaged and bound for the said island.

And we do hereby further declare, for our selves and successors, that whatsoever other
favour, or immunity, or protection shall or may conduce to the welfare, strength, and
improvement of the said island, shall from time to time be continued and applied there-
unto. Given under our hand.

Capt. Gregory Butler to the protector.

MAY ITT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNES,

A. D. 1655.
Vol. xxvi.
P. 453.

DURING my stay at Barbados, which was but eight dayes, severall strangers shippes were seized, and an imbargoe laid on all vessells. Aboard the Swiftshore a conference was held with collonell Mudeford and coll. Morrice, the night before I sett sayle for Crestifores; the some of it was, what place might bee best attempted, but indeed nothing concluded before my departure, which was earely next morning. Coll. Holdet and capt. Blagg were joyned in commission with my selfe to raise men, and seize all strangers shippes trading with the Leward Islands under the English governement. Our first arrivale was at Antegoe; whoes governor is Chrestopher Kennell, somtyme a capt. in England under the command of the honourable major generall Skippon. There wee staid but one night: haveing proclaymed your highnes, wee departed, after I had wryte to capt. Fountaine to come and serve your highnes, judgeing him fitt, whoe formerly was with capt. Cromwell in the Indes, knoweing him formerly to bee vallient. I enlured the governor to laye waite for capt. Campoe Subbatha, formerly Jackson's pillate; besids with moneys and promises I gott mr. Wentworth, capt. Cromwell's mate, whome I placed in the Mastonemore friggett as pillate. This island of Antegoe is much mollested with the Indyens of Guardelupp, Domineca, and St. Vencent, which made mee unwilling to entertaine any of the inhabbitants for souldiers, there not being one the island above twelve hundred men. The place hath very good harbors in it, and of all the islands formerly possessed by the English, is the best, haveing stoore of earth to make saltepeter. The next is Moncerrate, where with all sevellitye wee were entertained by the governor Osborne. Here wee raised fowerscore men, and toke two Dutch shippes and two Dutch shallups, proclamed your highnes, and soe departed for Meves, where the governor, a most sober, godley and discrete person, intertained us nobley, drew his people in armes, and proclaymed your highnes. The same day wee listed three hundred men. This gentleman being old was willing to laye downe his commission, but wee incuredged him to retaine it. Hee was much perplexed with some annebaptest. Of him and another I bought two Indyens of Floreday shamefully betraid by a private man of warr, and sould in this island; the which I left with my man upon the island of Gemecoe. In Meves wee staid but two dayes; soe departed to St. Cristophers, where wee found the greate ons verely unwilling, that wee should raise any men, ferring by that meanes the French might rewing them. The French were jellius of us, the old fier being unwilling to rune any hassard [in] his old agge, knowing his estate in St. Cristophers to bee better then the faviour of his master the king of France. The English governor Everard is a covetuos and greivous opresser, not carring what will become of his people, soe hee thrives. Here wee raised eight or nyne hundred men; and had those quartered, which wee brought from Neves and Mountsearate. The English would a faine a faulne out with the French during our staying here; but wee tooke such care, that the ammetye was renewed, and the people left in peece. This island is almost worne out by reason of the multitudes that live upon it. The fleete appearinge, wee shipped our men to the number of twelve hundred, and departed. It was contrary to my mind, to take more men then wee had victuales for, besides the great want of armes; which were arguments sufficient to carrye but a few: but Holdept and Blagg, with Fortesque, that arrived the day before, prevailed, and did shippe them in the Masten-more, Selbye, and fower prizes, which wee had taken; such force hath ambission, that noe publique good is vallowed, when a man prefers his one interest before the commonwealth; for by this means Holdept thought, that hee might have the command of a reggemente, whoe indeed never merited a company. I acquainted the generalls with the sad estate of one Charles Reymes was in, if there honours did not helpe. The said Reymes came to this island, rid with his shipp in the roade of Sandea Poynt, which is a bay at the west end of St. Christophers; the French hath forced it at th' one end of the baye, and the English at the other; soe it was free to both nations. In this place hee ride with his shipp, when the English governor desired him to sell none of his slaves to the French, promised hee would secure him from all harme. This the governor tould mee himself. I kept the estate from being sequestered, till the generalls came; and perceaveing hee was in danger of being rewened, I requested, that hee at present might bee bound to ship his goods in an English bottome for England, there to know your highnes pleasure further; which was granted, and I aboute to take the securitye, when Holdept, the enemye of all good, in my absence tells the commissioners some strange storrey or other, soe that the poore man's estate at present remaines sequestered and himselfe undone, without your highnes graciously bee pleased by the next shippes to order the comissioners to returne the same to him, who dare not loke homeward without your highnes speciall faviour. His father is an Englishman,

and president of the English company at Ratterdame. The generall made Holdept coll. A. D. 1655. contrary to the advice of the major generall of blessed memmory, and contrary to all the officers of the army, and thereby contrary to my one mind, whoe shall never endure such basse covituose Matchavells. At a councell of officers it was concluded, the generall's, major generall's, Fortisque's, Carter's, Doyle's and the sea regements, and Holdept's should land to the westward of the citty of Demengoe, Buller's to the est, where hee had a navigable river for his defence, with whome was part of Holdept's regemente. The first day wee onely marched three miles, it being late before all the army was landed; the next day wee marched twelve myles, had two horfemen kild, and that evening kild one of the enemy. The next day marched to Hyne-river, strucke of the way, and merched to Seavana; and the next morneing marched to a greate shewgar work, staid untill noone; and that evening marched neere the forte Geronemoe, which lyes within a mile and a halfe of the citty Demingoe; which bestowed severall shote. This night the generall and the army retreated to the shugar works, and himself by the concent of officers returned aboard of the Swiftshure, and pressed, that I might goe, which I did, and might without him have done all that was to bee done. This night the army came to Highne bay: the enemye came the next morneinge but one, as I remember, were effeyley repulced with the losse of the best of twenty of their men. During the army staying in this place, the generall constantly lay aboard of the shipp, two nights excepted. The first night the army came neere to the citty of Demingoe, generall Penn sent in some of his shippes, which did much terrifye the enemye, whoe spent their shote very liberally on both sides, which continued severall dayes. The mortar-peece being gott on shore, two finale peeces mounted, brandey and whatsoever else the army demaunded, with scalling lathers fitted; at a councell of field officers it was put to the voate, which way the army should march; and it was pressed hard by the generall and Fortesque to march intirelye with the army by the forte Geronemoe; but the major generall of happye memorye, colonel Buller, and myselfe, with lesteniant collonel Clarke, were for dividing the army, and marching to the north west side of the citty; but the generall was foe vialent for the contrary, that himselfe, Fortisque, Doyley, with Holdept, and some others, overvoted us. What reason hee had, I know not, except his feare to goe sepperated, thinking, as I beleave, fower thousand men to few for his gard. The next day the army marched, and after hee toke horse, I repaired aboard the Swiftshure, and acquainted generall Penn with his resolution, whoe read with the Swiftshure, Parragone, Maftonmore, Gloster, Lawrell, Armes of Holland, Portland, Selbye, Dover, Famothe, Hound, within the retch of the shott of Demingoe, with intention to have gone verely neere to batter the citty, and squoure the inside of the wall, if the army had marched upp.

The Forlone and some collers past forth Geronemoe, but suddinglye retreated; yet that evening partyes commanded forth under the commaund of lesteniant colonell Bland stood before the forte, expecting orders to sale on. The enemye did much mischefe amongst them by their artillary from the forte; yet the men seamed, as it was tould mee, and may easelye bee proved, willing to adventure, when suddingly the generall called a councell. Fortesque said, that in honour they were bound to attempt something, but as a Christian hee durst not sent. The bodye of the good major general was buried privatelye. The carriage of the mortar-peece burned, the shells buried, and the army dishonorably retreated. The generall came aboard the Swiftshea, and desired, that they might goe for some of the English plantations, hoped your highnes reserved his commaund for him in Ireland, but would not bee perswaded to attempt any thing upon Demengoe more; foe that wee moved the takeing in of Gemegoe; the 3d of May sett saile from Spaniora, and the 10th came into the harbor of Gemegoe generall Penn leadeing the way with his one ship; for after the miscaridge of Spaniora I have privatelye heard him say, hee would not trust the army with the attempt, if hee could come neere with his shippes; and indeed did in the Marten galley runn in tell shee was a ground before their breft worke in the bottome of the harbore, at the tyme when the botes went to land; which was done without any opposition, though much might a bynne expected. It was twelve at night before the army was all landed, and the next morneing aboute nyne the army merched, losseing the opportunitye of the cole of the morneing. About two wee came before the towne, marched in that night, though the enemye laye within two miles with their wives and families; yet by an inconsidered treatye hee permitted them to march away; which, when generall Penn came to towne, occasioned highe words betwixt himselfe and mee. The reasons wherefore I came home, if your highnes please, when I have the honour to kisse your hand, I shall either render, or be willing to submit to the regor of that justice, which a person offending may justlye deserve. In the meane tyme am the unworhest of your highnes faithfull servants,

GREG. BUTLER.

The End of the THIRD VOLUME.



I N D E X

TO THE THIRD VOLUME.

A.

- A** *Dams*, John, his several letters of intelligence, 78, 114, 471, 529, seq.
Admiralty of England, ordered to release some Spanish silver, 201. Their representation concerning the fleet, 297, seq.
 —in France, exceed their orders about shutting up the French ports, 328.
Aldworth, Robert, his commendation of the conduct of major Boteler, 170. Represents the city of Bristol as well affected to the government, *ibid.* His and Powell's proceedings in order to secure it, 223, 248. Desires a commission for settling the militia there, *ibid.* Account of his proceedings therein, and of the state of affairs at Bristol, 259, seq. Continues in his employment though desirous of retiring, 299.
 —John, his several letters of intelligence from Marseilles, 8, 20, 463, 486, 512, 539, 560, 727, 740. Procures the release of some English ships from Vendosme, 463. In danger of his life, 727. Occasion of it, *ibid.*
Allen, adjutant general, information of capt. Copleston and capt. Croke against him, 140. His vindication of himself, *ibid.* His letter to colonel Axtel or doctor Carteret, 141. Apprehended by capt. Croke, 143. Substance of the charge against him, *ibid.*
 —Thomas, his examination, 89.
Alured, colonel, his letter to the protector, 67. Desires to be admitted to speak with him, 707.
Amboina, trick put upon the Dutch lawyers, in order to get their true opinion of that affair, 13.
America. See *West-Indies*.
 —commissioners for, their commission to general Fortescue, 581.
Amsterdam, letter from the Burgomasters, relating to a tax for the sea armament, 448.
 —admiralty of, their resolution for equipping a fleet for the Baltic, 704.
Amville, duke of, sent to the duke of Orleans, 49.
Anabaptists, information of their proceedings and designs, 291.
Anderton, Robert, his examination, 369.
Anjou, duke of, proposal for his marrying the infanta of Portugal, 85. Character given of him by Conway, 106.
Annunciata, fort, taken by the duke of Guise, 9.
Anselme, colonel, his vindication of himself, in relation to the insurrection, 131.
Antigua, island, description of it, 754.
Antwerp, disorders there, 38, 45.
Ap Robert, his examination, 320.
Argenson, monsieur, saves the life of a Venetian gentleman in danger of being drowned, 619.
Argier, inhabitants of, shew great civilities to the English, 157.
Armine, William. See *Lincoln* commissioners.
Armorer, Nicholas, an agent for king Charles confined in Dover castle, 137. Desires sir Robert Stone to procure him his liberty, *ibid.* His letter sent to secretary Thurloe, *ibid.* Makes his escape at Aylesbury, 336.
Armorer, William, his letter concerning the state of king Charles's affairs, intercepted, 425.
Armstrong, Thomas, esq; his examination, 285, seq.
Army in England, propose to put the legislative power into the hands of the protector, 512.
Arundel, earl of, leave desired for his return home, 695.
Aske, judge. See *Steel*.
 —Ellen, her examination, 160. Her letter to mr. Nelson sent to secretary Thurloe, *ibid.* & seq.
Astalli, cardinal, likely to be reinstated at Rome upon the defeat of the duke of Guise, 4.
Atkins, judge, 227.
 VOL. III.

Attorney-general. See *Prideaux*.

- Avaugour*, monsieur, the French ambassador in Sweden, his several letters to monsieur Bordeaux concerning the affairs of that kingdom, 214, 414, 423, 578, 597. Ordered to follow the king, 578. Proposed for moderator between the Swedish commissioners and the Polish ambassadors, 598.
Avery, Samuel, his account of some proceedings in Holland, 723.
Augier, monsieur, his letter to secretary Thurloe, 99. Several letters of intelligence from his secretary, 2, 11, 69, 84, 99.
Austria, archduke of, recovers from a fever, 21. Preparations in Hungary for his coronation, *ibid.* Proposes to marry the infanta of Spain, 43, 54. Motions of his army, 43. Continues at Brussels, 502. Elected king of Hungary, 532.
 —don John of, to command in the Netherlands in the room of the archduke, 43. Comes with relief towards Castillon, 579. Suffers the place to be taken, not daring to succour it, 611.
Axtell, lieutenant, recommended to secretary Thurloe, 660.
Aylesbury, warrant to the constable thereof to detain certain suspected persons, 281.

B.

- B** *Aganall*, Nicholas, his examination, 125.
Baggelow, John, his examination, 241.
Baldwin, captain, taken into custody, 395.
Bampfild, colonel, his letter to mr. Lindsay touching the discovery of the plot against the protector, 87. Desires an interview with secretary Thurloe, 700. Advises him to defer signing the treaty with France, for some days, 737. Reason of it, *ibid.*
Barbadoes, state of affairs there, 142, 157, seqq. 249, seq.
 —governor of. See *Scarle*.
Barbarini, Antonio, disliked by the pope, 4. Levies forces for the use of the French king, 5. Hindered from sending assistance to the duke of Guise by the pope, 10.
Barker, captain, sent in custody to the protector, 240. His examination, *ibid.*
Barkhead, colonel, lieutenant of the tower, ordered to recruit and augment his companies, 56, seq. His proceedings therein, 57. Sends some intercepted papers to secretary Thurloe, 96. His proceedings with mr. Read, upon his endeavouring to make his escape, 192, seq. Seizes several horses belonging to suspected persons, 230. Desires instructions how to dispose of them, *ibid.* His information about Wiseman, king Charles's surgeon, 243. Apprehends Vyner, 520.
Barleau, fort, taken from the Spaniards by count Broglio, 102.
Barnard, Charles, his account of the proceedings of the judges against the prisoners at York, 399.
Barnesfather, Simon, his examination, 229.
Barriere, monsieur, the prince of Condé's agent in England, 439, 470, 471, 499, 529, 542, 585, 635, 674.
Barrington, mr. his account of the situation of the English affairs in the West-Indies, 646. Greatly blames the conduct of the general, *ibid.*
Barrow, colonel, endeavours to suppress a petition relating to H. Cromwell, 29.
Barton, John, his examination, 662.
Batchelor, Anthony, his examination, 319.
Bayly, Edward, his deposition touching the insurrection at Salisbury, 319.
 —Nicholas, his confession touching a plot against the protector, 127.
Beal, Henry, his letter to secretary Thurloe, 216. His proceedings at Chichester, 219.
Beaumaris,

I N D E X.

Beaumaris, garrison, a plot to surprize it discovered, 128.
Belcarres, lord, expected at Cologne, 532.
Bell, William, his information about a plot against the protector, 230.
Bendish, John, his information against Cobbe, 155.
Berkenhead, mr. his account of affairs at Barbadoes, 157, 159.
Berkeley, sir Henry, Information against him touching the rising at Salisbury, 330.
 — William, his deposition touching the insurrection, 355.
Berry, colonel, his letter to the protector, touching captain Barker, &c. 240. His account of the dispersing of the Cavaliers about Newark, 263, seq. Desires instructions about disposing of the arms taken by him, 310. Further account of his proceedings, 590.
 — Arthur, his examination, 452, seq.
Betson, Thomas, satisfaction given about him, 186.
Bewerling, departs from London, 7. Declines making a report, 14. His character of the protector, *ibid.* His commission for the office of the treasurer general suspended, 15. Resolution of the states general thereupon, *ibid.* Supported by the states of Holland, 20, seqq. His marriage obstructed by the suspension of his office, 49. Endeavours to be admitted into the council, 50, 79. His declaration touching the seclusion of the prince of Orange, 97. Proposed for one of the deputies of Holland in the states general, 114. His letter to Nieuport, *ibid.* His letter to secretary Thurloe, 396. His opinion of the success of the treaty between England and France, 619.
Beverwaert, refuses to submit to Brederode, 530.
Beuning, returns from Staden, 22.
Biggs, Joseph, his information against Thomas Smith of Bristol, 352.
Bingham, John, his information of several proceedings of the royalists, 122.
Birch, colonel, apprehended at Hereford, 261.
Bishop, capt. George, his precautions to prevent an insurrection apprehended at Bristol, 153, 161, 165. Character given of him by major Boteler, 171. His proceedings in order to apprehend Masley, 177, seq. His account of the proceedings of the cavaliers at Shaftsbury and other places, 242. A remonstrance against him, 268.
Blagge, capt. Edward, recommended as a commissioner for Barbadoes, 11. Joined in commission with col. Holdet and capt. Butler, 754.
Blake, general, cruizes about the Straits mouth, 1, 14. Ordered to pursue the duke of Guise 41. Arrives at Leghorn, 85. Makes an agreement with the Spanish commissaries, 103. Misses the duke of Guise, *ibid.* His reflections upon the proceedings of the English parliament, 232. His proceedings at Tunis, *ibid.* Declines attacking port Farina, *ibid.* Desires clearer instructions, *ibid.* His further proceedings and designs, *ibid.* Chafes several French ships into Lisbon, 321. Departs from Tunis, 326. Cruizes before Trapani in Sicily, 375. Intends once more for Tunis, *ibid.* Sends to Algier for biscuit, *ibid.* Enters the harbour of Tunis, and fires all the ships, 390. His loss in that action, *ibid.* Takes two Hamburgers and a Dutch ship, 487. Cruizes before Cadiz, 503. About Majorca and Ivique, 513. Concludes a peace with Algier, 527. His letter to the protector touching the plate fleet, 541. Groundless opinion of some of the Spaniards about his design, 570. His letter to secretary Thurloe, 611. Desires a supply of ships, 612, 620. Continues off Cadiz, 670. Takes two rich Dunkirk ships, 698. His reason for not attacking the Spanish fleet, 718. His representation of the ill condition of his fleet, 752.
Blaney, —, to command a party of cavaliers in Montgomeryshire, 207, seq.
Blanthorne, William, his examination, 284.
Bodell, captain, apprehended, 148.
Bohemia, queen of, the affair of her creditors recommended to the protector and the ambassador Nieuport, 526.
Bond, Christopher, appointed envoy by the king of Sweden to the protector, prepares to depart, 414. Arrives at Gravesend, 673. Desires audience, 691. Presses secretary Thurloe for a speedy dispatch of his affairs, 736.
Bonneau, count, his letter to monsieur Datin, 28.
Bonnel, the Swedish agent, at London, his letter to secretary Thurloe, touching his own affairs 655.
Bootsma, mynheer, returns from Staden, 22.
Bordeaux, monsieur, the French ambassador in England, account of what passed at his audience, 5, seq. His con-

ferences about the design of the English fleet, 7, 8. His reflections upon the conduct of the English government in relation to the protestants of Languedoc, 7. His account of some proceedings of the Spanish ambassador, *ibid.* His Reflections upon him, 9, 10. Apprehensive of a rupture of the treaty, 11. Treats about the transportation of 2000 Scotchmen to France, *ibid.* Further account of his negotiations, 18. Justification of his conduct therein, 33, seq. Refutes his father's interpretation of his desire of having his blessing, 34. His reflections upon the English government, *ibid.* Greatly interested in the success of the treaty, 39. Cautioned against the intrigues of the Spanish ambassador, 41. His final orders, 52. Concludes the treaty with colonel Lyon, about raising 2000 Scots, *ibid.* His letter to Minard, *ibid.* His account of some affairs in England, 57, seq. Resolution taken to recall him, 58. Her letter to secretary Thurloe, 77. Fault found with him at court, 86. Character given of him by Nieuport, 101. Dissatisfied with the council's answer, 102. Demands audience of leave, 103. and a conference upon some article of the treaty, 123. His letter to the cardinal, *ibid.* His reflections upon the dissolution of the parliament, 124. Substance of a conference with the English commissioners, 128. His further negotiations about the Scots forces, 129, 134. Meets with new difficulties about signing the treaty, 135. Expresses great resentment against the protector thereupon, *ibid.* His account of the affairs in England upon the dissolution of the parliament, *ibid.* Propose some expedients to remove the difficulties in the treaty, 185. Further account of the state of his negotiations, 220, seq. Greatly embarrassed therein, 311. His reflection upon the resolute behaviour of the protector, 312. His answer to the compliment of an arrest upon the ships and goods of the English in the ports of France, *ibid.* His negotiations at a stand upon that account, 313, 333, 347. Excuses his conduct to the cardinal, 346. Gives the protector satisfaction concerning the English ships arrested in France, 368. Earnestly presses the conclusion of the treaty, 381, 415. Several reasons assigned for the delay of it, *ibid.* His letters to his father, 437, 558. Complains of the insincerity of the English court, 469. His letters to monsieur Fly at Calais, *ibid.* and 629. His re-capitulation of the several delays made use of by the English in the treaty, 470. His justification of himself, 511, 653. His reflections upon the conduct of the states general, 513. Resolves to desire audience of leave, 558. His conjecture about the design of the collection for the protestants of Piedmont, 568. Complains of the seizure and detention of monsieur de Poincy, 628, 683. His letters to monsieur de Lionne, the French ambassador at Rome, 636, 680. Congratulates with monsieur Charost on the success of the French king's arms, 662. Communicates the taking of Landrecy and Castillon to the protector, 673. Refuses to insert any thing in the treaty in favour of the Vaudois, *ibid.* His letter to the French ambassador in Sweden, 680. His reflection upon the recalling of the letters of marque by the English, *ibid.* and upon the cold reception, which the news of the accommodation in Savoy met with at London, 745.
Bordeaux, senior, in great concern about his son's negotiations, 10, 326. His several letters and advice to him, 33, 37, 58, 302, 351, 465, 634. Falls dangerously ill, 85. Refused the sacrament till he had removed his mistress, 86. Reported to be dead, 100, 102. His discourse with monsieur Brienne and Servien about his son's negotiations, 303. with the cardinal about the same, 363. Blames his son for giving so much credit to the English court, 634. His account of a conversation betwixt the cardinal and the English envoy, 740.
Boreel, the Dutch ambassador at Paris, his letters to the states general touching several affairs at the French court, 52, 102, 430. Concerning the affairs in Piedmont, 475. and the fleet under Blake, 619.
Borri, a Venetian general, his advice touching the preparations for the campaign, 5.
Boslock, Nathaniel, his information, 166.
Boteler, major William, his account of the state of affairs at Bristol, 170, seq. 176, seq. Desires orders about recruiting his regiment, 172. His proceedings against several persons concerned in the plot, 176, seq. His letter to the protector about demolishing the castle, 182. Apprehends one Stradling, 183. His proceedings upon the information given him by the said Stradling, 191. Sets the judges at liberty, and determines to attack the cavaliers, 243. His reflections upon their defeat, 309. Apprehends

I N D E X.

- prehends sir Seymour Pyle, 309. Releases him upon bail, believing him innocent, 327. Desires instructions touching col. Bennet, *ibid.* His proceedings touching the appointment of jurors, 328.
- Boteler*, Noel, apprehends major Wildman, 147.
- Bordeaux*, precaution taken, to secure it, 40. Proceedings against some persons concerned in the plot discovered there, *ibid.*
- Bourne*, Thomas, sends persons to apprehend mr. Cowley, 702. Gives information of his being in London, 707.
- Bouteville*, baron de, expected at London from Brussels, 102.
- Bower*, Richard, his examination, 96.
- Boyer*, sir John, apprehended, 252.
- Bradshaw*, R. resident at Hamburgh, his several complaints of the behaviour of mr. Townley, and the company of merchants there, 92, 137, 152, 225, 305, 360, 487, 605, 631, 741. Desires a commission to examine witnesses, 138. His letter to secretary Thurloe concerning some persons employed to give intelligence of king Charles's designs, 153. about a report of king Charles's being landed at Hull, 195, 198. His conjecture about the designs of the king of Sweden, 224. Desires a commission to examine witnesses, 276, *seq.* Cautions the protector against the designs of the Empire, Sweden, Denmark, &c. 277. Congratulates the state on the suppression of the insurrection at Salisbury, 304, *seq.* Thanks secretary Thurloe for his civility to his wife, 305. Desires his advice about laying down his deputyship, 488. His intelligence of the motions of the Swedes, 539, 708. His letter to the company, 707. Advertises the protector of some persons being gone from Cologne with a design to assassinate him, 631.
- lord president, information against him, 185.
- mrs. thanks secretary Thurloe for presenting her to the protector, 266. Her representation of the designs of Townley and his party, *ibid.*
- Bramston*, major, ordered to attend the protector, 46.
- Brandenburgh*, elector of, sends an ambassador to the Czar, 27. Raises forces, 224. His alliance desired by the Dutch, 493. Indebted to that Republick, *ibid.* Particulars of the treaty between him and the states, 494. Proceedings thereon, 495. Complaints against him by the town of Wezel, to the states general, *ibid.* An enemy to the protector, 544. Arms at the conquest of Juliers and Bergue, 552.
- Brasile*, memorial of the council of war appointed to try the officers who left it, 39.
- Brayne*, colonel William, governor of Inverloughree, his instructions, 520.
- Bremen*. See *Treaty*. Points in dispute between them and the king of Sweden, 3. Representation of their damages suffered by the earl of Oldenburgh, 80. Deceived in their expectations from Holland, 81.
- Brecknock*, Lancelot, his examination, 375.
- Brederoode*, ill of a dropie, 530. His death, 749.
- Brest*, squadron there, afraid to put to sea on account of Blake, 1. Cannonaded by the English, 28. and plundered, 40.
- Bretagne*, parliament of, refuses to pay the impositions, 48. Interdicted thereupon, *ibid.*
- Brewster*, mr. Nathaniel, desires a recommendation to the deputy of Ireland, 559. Recommends lieutenant Axtell to secretary Thurloe, 660.
- Brienne*, count, secretary of state at Paris, his several letters to Bordeaux, 3, 15, 123, 535, 617, 636, 731. His discourse with Bordeaux senior about the peace, 303. Finds fault with one of his son's letters to the cardinal, *ibid.* Lays the blame of the seizure of the English ships upon the admiralty, 328. His reflections upon the English and the protestants, 475. His remarks upon the interest of the protector with regard to the treaty with France, 613.
- Bristol*, precautions used to prevent an insurrection suspected there, 153, 161, 165. Account of the disposition of the people, 169, —172, 181. Letter of the mayor and aldermen to the protector, 184. Proceedings in order to secure it against any attempt of the cavaliers, 223, 248, 259. Their engagement to the protector, 231. Exceptions against the commissioners appointed to settle the militia, 263. Proceedings in relation to the settling of it, 299. Informations sent up to the protector by the mayor and aldermen against one Smith, apprehended for seditious words, 351.
- Brogbill*, lord, desires the payment of his arrears, 396. His representations on behalf of lord Grandison, 574, 727, 737. Desires that lord Suffolk and sir Charles Harbord's affairs may be referred to the commissioners, 574. Sets out for Scotland, 727. Presses a maintenance for lady Suffolk, *ibid.*
- Broglio*, count, defeats a party of Spaniards near Berlin, 40. Dangerously wounded at Lens, 54. Arrives at Paris, 102. Made lieutenant general to the duke of Modena, 683.
- Bromsfeld*, Jeremiah, his examination, 290.
- Brooke*, John, gives information of some of king Charles's agents, 53, 179.
- Brookes*, mr. several letters to him intercepted, 613, 638, 672.
- Bryne*, John, his information, 660.
- Buckingham*, duke of, thought to be in England, 370.
- Bull*, Thomas, his examination, 90.
- Buller*, major-general, 12.
- Burghill*, mr. F. his letter to col. Goffe, 184.
- Burgis*, Robert, his information against several persons for coining, 422.
- Burnett*, mr. information against him, 261.
- Butler*, captain Gregory, his account of affairs at Barbadoes, 142. Of the condition of the fleet in the West-Indies, 599. His further account of the proceedings of the fleet and army there, 754, *seq.*
- Edward, esq; made receiver general of the revenues of Southampton, Wilts and Dorset, 688.
- John, his examination touching the design on Shrewsbury, 226.
- Buttry*, capt. John, his deposition touching the plot, 239.
- Bye*, monsieur, Polish resident at the Hague, ordered to go to England, 49. Subject of his commission, 50. Supercription of his credentials, 51. Desires a speedy audience, 303. His memorial relating to the war begun against Poland by Muscovy, 313, *seq.* Renews his instances, for the dispatch of his affairs, 421.

C.

- Cadagates*, besieged by prince Conti, 464. Taken, 491.
- Caillat*, secretary to prince Condé, his letters to Barriere, 499, 529, 542, 562, 674. To Marigni, 618.
- Calais*, governor of. See *Charost*.
- Cape de Quies*, taken by Mercœur, 487.
- Capelle*, besieged by the French, 635. Reinforced, 674. Siege raised, *ibid.*
- Caracena*, marquis of, reason of his marching against the duke of Modena, 294.
- Cardenas*, don Alonzo de. See *Spanish* ambassador in England. Represents the king of Spain as desirous of peace with France, 7. Caution given to the French ambassador against his intrigues, 41. Notifies his being commanded to Flanders, 415. Expresses his concern at being obliged to do his office of leave in writing, *ibid.*
- Cardinals* nominated to succeed the Pope, 131. Number of them in the conclave, 163. Propose to make the new pope swear to endeavour a reconciliation between France and Spain, 235.
- Carlisle*, garrison, representation touching the ruinous condition of it, 300, *seq.*
- Carter*, Thomas and Edward, their examination touching the insurrection at Salisbury, 634.
- Carvajal*, Anthony Fernando, an indenization granted to him and his two sons, 688.
- Castellaneta*, prince. See *Guise*.
- Castillon*, besieged by prince Conti, 563. Taken, 611.
- Catalonia*, early under the French, 40.
- Cezzi*, monsieur de, dispute betwixt the French ambassador and the English commissioners about his and Marchevill's debt, 128.
- Chabot*. See *Roban*.
- Chamberlain*, mr. Thomas, his letter to secretary Thurloe, 719.
- Chambers*, mr. Joseph, his proceedings in order to secure Coventry against the royalists, 264.
- Chancery*, matters in ordinary, their names, 410.
- Chanut*, monsieur, the French ambassador in Holland, his compliment to Bordeaux, 2, 49, 619. Ordered to second the negotiations of Kemping, 14. His reflections upon the queen of Sweden, 49. His negotiations in Holland at a stand, 81. His memorial relating to the knights of Malta, 106. His reflections upon the delays in the treaty between England and France, 168, 293. And upon king Charles's design of going into England, *ibid.* His conjecture about the reason of the inaction of the Spaniards, *ibid.* His account of some affairs in Holland, 293, 551. Declares himself very desirous of the success of the treaty with England, 322. Proposes to compliment Nieuport for

I N D E X.

- for his good offices therein, *ibid.* Apprehensive of the English having some design upon the Havanna, 349. Desires Bordeaux to procure him a pass for a pleasure-boat for the French king, 472. His reflections upon the conduct of the English and Dutch, 498. His compliment upon the French nation, 619. His conjectures about the design of the protector to delay the conclusion of the treaty, 635, *seq.* His observations upon his conduct with respect to the Dutch, 671. His reflection upon the Swedish ambassador's behaviour upon the revolt of the palatinates in Poland, 748.
- Chard*; an account of the prisoners there, 407.
- Charles II.* king, intends for Scotland, 3. Takes great delight in hunting, 19. His saying upon the news of the duke of Guise's defeat, *ibid.* Further account of his designs, *ibid.* Sends deputies to the emperor, to receive the money promised him, 21. Disappointed in his expectations of commotions in England, 39. Alters his resolution about the duke of Gloucester, 44. His present to the duke of Newburgh, *ibid.* His situation at Cologne, *ibid.* Consents to the submission of his friends in Scotland, *ibid.* Masses said for the recovery of his plate, which was stolen, *ibid.* A letter of his intercepted, 76. His measures disconcerted by the discovery of the plot in England, 114. Said to be landed there, 168, 196, 198, 207. Endeavours to raise disturbances in Scotland, 217. His coming into Holland opposed, 255. In private at Middleburgh, 276. Preparations in Germany, and other places, designed for his assistance, 277. Intelligence of his designs, 279. Removes to Cologne, 339. Assurance given of his not having been in England, *ibid.* His most considerable agents there, *ibid.* Proposes to send a Franciscan friar to Rome, 433. Information of another plot contriving for him, 465, 533, 556. A secret treaty on foot between him and Mazarin, 533, 561, 564, 577. The chief condition of it, *ibid.* Further account of the affairs of his court, *ibid.* Receives money from the elector of Cologne, 561. Pleased with the king of Sweden's letters, 591. Hopes much from him, *ibid.* Visited by the duke of Newburgh, 617. Reconciles Middleton and Belcarres, 659. Endeavours used to reconcile him and the queen mother, *ibid.* Forbids the earl of Lewen from levying forces in Scotland for the service of any foreign prince, 692.
- Charost*, count de, governor of Calais, his letters to Bordeaux, 4, 110. His civilities to mr. Downing, 696. His letter to secretary Thurloe, *ibid.*
- Chase*, an apothecary in Covent Garden, entertains king Charles's agents, 343.
- Thomas, advises a strict enquiry to be made after some persons at Alton concerned in the insurrection at Salisbury, 261.
- Chastillon*, madam, caressed by the French court, 9. Endeavours to bring prince Condé to a reconciliation, *ibid.* and 40. Her influence over him, 40.
- Cheney*, Margaret, her examination touching the insurrection, 326.
- Chesler*, disaffected to the protector, 245.
- commissioners of, their protection to mr. Werden, 338.
- Cheyne*, mr. Francis. See *Suffex* commissioners.
- Chigi*, cardinal, elected pope, 351. See *Pope*.
- Child*, major, apprehended, 252.
- China*, a king there turns Christian, 594.
- Chirkcastle*, information of a design against it, 207, *seq.*
- Clark*, colonel, apprehended, 252.
- John, his letter to major Haynes, concerning the securing of Bury, 236.
- Henry, his examination touching a pamphlet reflecting on the protector, 739.
- Clayton*, George, his examination, 228.
- Clotworthy*, lady Margaret, her letter to secretary Thurloe, 395.
- Cobbe*, William, informations against him, 155, *seq.* His own examination, 156. Letter relating to him, 161, *seq.*
- Cock*, doctor, one of the judges of the admiralty, represents the necessity of settling publick notaries, 687.
- Cockran*, sir Brice, 18. See *Ireland*.
- Cockram*, Thomas, his information concerning a great course of quakers in Leicestershire, 94. Account of their dispersing, 116.
- Colbert*, monsieur, made commissioner of Marine in France, 70.
- Colcheffer*, represented as disaffected to the protector, 228.
- Coleman*, Thomas, his examination, 725.
- Collinson*, captain, his examination touching major general Overton, 197. His farther examination, *ibid.*
- Cologne*, elector of, required by his place to attend in the great church upon the *dies regum*, 44. Present made him by the chapter thereupon, *ibid.* Not well inclined to king Charles, *ibid.* Goes to Liege to levy forces, 158. Present made by him to king Charles, 561.
- Commissioners* for the Southern expedition, desire instructions concerning supplies for the fleet, 203.
- of the customs, their representation touching some suspected persons apprehended at Gravesend, 104.
- Compton*, sir William, in custody, desire secretary Thurloe to move the protector for his discharge, 697.
- Conclave*. See *Cardinal*.
- Condé*, prince, at Malines, 38. Reason of his not visiting the queen of Sweden, 53. Dissatisfied with the treatment of him, 54. Proposes to march towards the frontiers of France, *ibid.* His letters to Barriere his agent in England, 439, 470, 635. Is with his army, near Rocroy, 452. Goes for Brussels on hearing of the design to besiege Rocroy, 471. Stands only on the defensive, 480. Promises Rookely to give him wherewith to levy a regiment, 529. Reinforces Landrecy, 542. Number of his troops, 562. Misses taking the French king prisoner by not coming to la Fere, 563. Unable to relieve Landrecy, *ibid.* Disappointed in endeavouring to hinder convoys going to the French camp, *ibid.* Designs to besiege some of the enemy's garrisons, 571. Marches towards the river Somme with part of his army, 579. Disposition of the rest, *ibid.* & *seq.* Sends an order to Barriere to receive money for his use, 585. Gives notice to the king, to leave la Fere, 588. Sends Marigny a cypher to write the news from Rome, 618. Charges Turenne with writing a falsehood about his retreat, 724, *seq.*
- Conti*, prince, at Montpellier, 40. Besieges Cadaguées, 464. Takes it, 491. Besieges Castillon, 563. Very near being taken by the enemy, *ibid.* Carries on the siege with great vigour, 579. Takes the place, 611.
- Conway*, lord, an intercepted letter of his to the earl of Northumberland, 106.
- garrison, secured by mr. Kynaston, 168.
- Cooke*, Henry, his examination, 99.
- Cooper*, mr. William, desires secretary Thurloe, that his brother, le Maire, may have another name to address to, 705.
- Copiston*, colonel. See *Allen*, adjutant. His proceeding in securing the county of Devon, 219.
- Corbett*, Richard, his examination on oath, 267.
- Corbin*, John, his examination, 42.
- Cornaro*, a noble Venetian, hanged up by the foot for corresponding with the Spanish ambassador, 619.
- Cornesford*, John, his examination, 404.
- Cossacks*, defeated by the Poles, 84.
- Cotton*, William, his deposition, 259.
- Coventry*, lord, imprisoned, 593.
- Council*, at Whitehall, ordered several Dutch ships to be released, 101. Their order touching the trial of the persons concerned in the late insurrection, 295, *seq.* Advise the protector to issue a proclamation against popish priests, 405. To appoint masters in chancery, 409. Their advice touching the establishing of a council in Scotland, 423. Also granting a patent for charking Newcastle coals, 496. and appointing judges in Ireland, 549. Their allowances, 581. Nominate commanders of the militia, 701. Their advice touching the election of Officers at Colchester, 745.
- Coyet*, secretary, arrives at Hamburgh, 108.
- Courland*, accepts the protection of Sweden, 534.
- duke of, his remonstrance to the protector touching a ship of his seized at Bristol, 410.
- Courtray*, quarrel between the inhabitants and a regiment quartered there, 81.
- Cowley*, William, means used to apprehend him, 702. Information of his being in London, 707.
- Cowlithay*, George, his information, relating to the quakers, 117.
- Cox*, captain, killed at Hispaniola, 506.
- Cranstrome*, mr. a prisoner at Hull, his letter to major general Fleetwood praying enlargement, 629.
- Creed*, major, desires to be reimbursed the money expended by him for intelligence, 211. His account of the motions of the cavaliers in several parts of the country, 212, *seq.* Desires instructions about recruiting the troops, 270, *seq.* Apprehends some suspected persons, 334.
- Cramer*, Edmund, and John Pell, their letter to secretary Thurloe, 161.

I N D E X.

Croft, captain. See *Allen*, adjutant. His proceedings in Devonshire, 165. His letter to the protector about his lieutenant, 193. His account of the detention of his soldiers at Weymouth for endeavouring to apprehend Sexby, 194, seq. Desires the lives of some persons may be saved, whom he promised to intercede for, 281, 368. Apprehends several suspected persons, 521.

Cromwell, Oliver, encomium upon him, 4. His discourse with the French ambassador, 5, seq. His mother buried in Westminster-abbey, 9. Houses appropriated to his use, 36. Consents to let some branches of the revenue upon farm, *ibid.* Title given him by the king of Poland, 50, 51. His warrants to colonel Barkstead to recruit and augment his companies, 56, 57. His warrant for mustering those recruits, 57. Impowered to raise money in the intervals of parliament, *ibid.* Debate about enlarging his authority, 58. Intrusted with the sole care of the naval expedition, *ibid.* His letter to the Spanish ambassador, touching money due to Peter Ricaut, 75. A plot against him discovered, 77. His warrant for committing Rowland Thomas to the Tower, 87. Debates touching the delivery of Bills to him, 101. Dissolves the parliament, 124. Queries touching his proceedings, 150, seq. Offer made by a person at Calais, in relation to the discovery of the plot against him, 187,—189. His warrant for restoring some Spanish silver, 201, seq. His instructions to colonel Jones, 220. To general Disbrowe, 221. To —relating to the insurrection at Nottingham, 222. His orders to the governor of Jersey, 231. Appoints commissioners of the militia for the isle of Ely, 233. His instructions to them, *ibid.* & seq. Title given him by the emperor of Russia, 257. Caution about his intended progress through England, 276. His intrepid behaviour to the French ambassador, 312. Demands full information about the arrest put upon the English ships in the French ports, *ibid.* Orders baron Thorp and serjeant Glyn to repair to him, 332. Inform'd of a person, who is to come from France, with design to destroy him, 3, 2. His instructions to mr. Rolt, 418. His warrant to the lieutenant of the Tower, to deliver several persons, in order to their transportation to Barbados, 453. His clemency to his enemies, 454, 455. Information of a design to blow up, or otherwise dispatch him at Whitehall, 468. Resolves to write to the French king in behalf of the protestants of Piedmont, 470. Greatly concerned at the persecution against them, 480. His commission, constituting Disbrowe major general of all the forces raised in Cornwall, Devonshire, &c. 486. Ratifies the articles between general Monck and the earl of Loudon, 496. His directions for the council of Scotland, *ibid.* His letter to the duenna of Algier, touching the effects of Edmund Casson, late agent there, deceased, 500. A picture of him on horseback, with certain verses thereon, seized at Paris, 502. The said verses translated into French, 540. A design set on foot by the army to invest him with the legislative power, 512. Highly extolled by that nation, *ibid.* His instructions to general Blake, touching the plate fleet, 547. Advised to imprison Elezias Shelley, 557. His letter to Fleetwood, deputy of Ireland, 572. Meets with no opposition in Scotland, 623. Embassage to him expected from Sweden and Venice, *ibid.* Two persons sent from king Charles's court at Cologne to assassinate him, 631. Proposes to send to the protestant Cantons of Switzerland, about re-establishing the inhabitants of the Vallies, 636. A ludicrous picture of him and the French king and king of Spain, set to sale at Paris, 658. Recalls the private letters of marque, 673. His envoy goes from Turin, 683. Orders general Blake to keep the whole Fleet with him, 688. His order in council touching the salaries of the clerk of the council and his assistant in Scotland, 701. And the commanders of the militia in the respective counties, *ibid.* His commissioner to Savoy well received by the French court, 731. His letter to the town of Colchester, impowering them to elect officers as formerly, 753. His proclamation for settling a colony at Jamaica, *ibid.* Proclaimed at Antigua and other places in the West Indies, 754.

— Henry, a petition relating to him set on foot in Carrickfergus, 29. Writes to secretary Thurloe in favour of alderman Walley, 503. Desires to have the judges commissions with him to Ireland, 581. Laments the want of ministers in the isle of Anglesea, 614. His letter to secretary Thurloe in favour of sir Charles Coote, 691. Desires the continuance of his good offices to captain Deane, *ibid.* To the same, relating to the forces in Ireland, &c. 699.

VOL. III.

And the reduction of them, 715, 744.

Croome, Henry, his examination, 66.

Crowne, col. William, his proceedings in order to prevent an Insurrection about Shrewsbury, 215, 238.

Crynssen, captain, murdered by two French privateers, 103.

Cudworth, doctor Ralph, recommends doctor Cummins for a place in the Tower, 614.

— mr. Jonas, his informations concerning the plot against the protector, 178, 186. Complains of ill usage, 186. His farther information, 336.

Cunliffe, Anne, her examination, 90.

Cuny, John, examined, touching the design against the garrison of Shrewsbury, 270.

Custis, Edmund, his examination, 65. Re-examined, 82, seq.

Custons, &c. offer to the protector for the farm of them, 36. Letter from the commissioners, touching several suspected persons seized at Gravesend, 204.

D.

Dakins, rear-admiral, recommended for a commissioner for Barbados, 4.

Dallington, John, his examination, 35.

Daniel, colonel, his account of the defeat of the English at Hispaniola, 505,—508.

Dantick, presents a memorial to the States General for a Subsidy, 109.

Darcy, Marmaduke, much trusted by king Charles, 343.

— James, intercepted letter of his to D. D. John Smith, at Dunkirk, 548.

Datin, monsieur, his letter to count Bonneau, 77.

Daubne, mr. his account of the abrupt departure of the English consul from Cadiz, and the consequences thereof, 569, seq. Of the great Preparations made in Spain to oppose Blake, 716.

Davis, Daniel, his examination, 206.

— Thomas, his examination, 167.

Davy, Thomas, his examination, 211.

Deane, mr. his informations touching the plot, 64.

D'Harcourt, prince of, his civilities to mr. Downing, 725.

Dendy, serjeant, his letter to secretary Thurloe, touching lands claimed by him in Ireland, 707.

Denmark, king of, aims at the reduction of Hamburgh, 100. arrives at Copenhagen, 555. Irresolute in his conduct, and afraid to engage in a war, 703.

— agent of, at London. See *Rosenwinge*.

Deventer. See *Overyssel*.

Digby, sir John, concealed under the name of Harrinson, 179.

Disbrowe, general, his proceedings in fitting out the fleet, 3, 11, 12. Desires some blank commissions, *ibid.* Recommends admiral Dakins and others, for commissioners for Barbados, 4, 11. Instructions to him on his repair into the West of England, 221. His proceedings in order to quell the insurrection, 247. Divides his troops into several parties, 263. Sends a list of the prisoners, 305, seq. His letter inclosing it, 308. His further proceedings against the cavaliers, 557, seq. His representation of the necessity of paying the sheriff's regiment, 585. Account of his disposal of the prisoners in his custody, *ibid.*

Doriffaus, Isaac, his letter to secretary Thurloe, touching an intercepted one to a domestic of Barriere's, 231.

Dormido, Manoel Martin, alias David Abrabanel, 750.

Dorset county, disaffected to the protector, 242.

Dove, mr. John, high sheriff of Wilts, his letter to secretary Thurloe, touching the proceedings against the prisoners, 318.

Dover, governor of. See *Wilson*.

— Mayor, &c. of, send up the examination of Andreas Janson Grove, to secretary Thurloe, 325.

Dovey, Edward, his examination, 229.

Dowdall, mr. a letter from him and others intercepted, 129.

Downing, mr. George, sent to the duke of Savoy, his reception at Calais, 696. Account of his negotiations in the French court, 734. Goes towards Geneva, 740.

Drummond, John, a minister recommended to the protector, 729.

Duckenfield, Robert, his reasons for refusing a commission at home, 294. Offers to serve abroad, *ibid.* His proposal about the militia, *ibid.*

Duke, Robert, his examination, 401.

Dury, G. desires audience of the protector for mr. Bonnel, commissary of Sweden, 517.

Dutch, block up the Scheld, 13. Dispute about the right of trying

I N D E X.

trying their officers, 50, 51, 80. End aimed at thereby, *ibid.* Preachers, mostly of the Orange party, *ibid.* Their counsels discover'd to the English, 51. Reflections upon their behaviour in relation to commerce and navigation, 79. And on their various dispositions and interests, *ibid.* and 80, 115. Disputes about calling Beverning and Nieuport to account, 81. Said to have a design to join with the Spaniards, 154. Merchants at Hamburgh confident of the restoration of king Charles, 224. Court'd at Barbados, 249, *seq.* In England, their petition to the protector, 357. Highly incens'd against the duke of Savoy for his cruelty to the protestants, 472, 619. Much troubled at the designs of the king of Sweden, 551. Great divisions among them, *ibid.* Proceed slowly on their naval preparations, 553. Prepare to send a fleet to the Sound, 703. Reflections on the situation of their affairs, with respect to the northern powers, 704.
Dutch resident in Sweden. See *Heinsius*.
 — *embassador in England.* See *Nieuport*.
 — *in France.* See *Borel*.

E.

East-India company, Dutch, agreement touching the sum to be paid by them to the East-India company of England, 21. Jealous of the protector's opening the navigation to the Indies, 80.
 — English, letter to the Dutch East-India company, 41.
Edwards, Edward, his disposition touching the insurrection, 318.
Egmond, count, obliged to let his house at Brussels to the queen of Sweden, 54.
Elbauf, duke of, of a rencounter between his son, and others in Languedock, 442.
Ellis, Robert, seized at Aylesbury, on suspicion of being in the late insurrection, 281.
Elwes, Thomas his information, on oath, against Henry Simmonds, of a correspondence with king Charles, 334.
Ely, militia of, commissioners appointed to train and conduct them, 233. Their instructions, *ibid.* & *seq.*
English, conjectures about the design of their naval preparations, 7, 8, 9, 27, 59, 77. Plunder the coasts of Bretagne, 40, 48. Their interest not to molest the Muscovites, 50. Estimate of the charge of their fleet, 64. Commit hostilities against the French, 69. Fit out another fleet, 101. Reflections upon their instability, 163. and the condition of their affairs, 186. An arrest upon their ships and goods in the ports of France, 312. Taken off, 351. Defeated at Hispaniola, 505.
 — *envoy to the king of Sweden.* See *Rolt*.
 — *envoy in Switzerland.* See *Pell*, *Morland* and *Downing*.
 — *consul at Cadiz.* See *Wilson*.
Evans, Griffith, his deposition touching the insurrection, 320.
 — *John*, his examination, 166.
Evanston, John, his examination, 288.
Excise, &c. sum offered for the farm of them, 36.
Exeter, plea of the prisoners there, upon their trial, 391, *seq.* Names of the persons condemn'd there, 394, *seq.* Letters to secretary Thurloe relating to them, 398.
Eyre, colonel, secured at Dublin, 124.
 — *William*, letter to him in favour of Macke, condemn'd, 380.
Eyres, William, his examination, 126.
Eyton, William, his examination, 286.
 — *Randle*, his examination, 341.

F.

Faccioli, hasten their preparations for the field, 5.
Fairfax, lord, caution against him and others, 64, 302. Believed to have discovered the plot to the Protector, 312.
Ferté, marischal de la, his and his lady's reception at Nantz, 441. To join the mareschal Turenne, 479.
Feuillade, monsieur de, killed at Landrecy, 587.
Finley, John, an agent for king Charles in London, information about him, 313.
Fleetwood, general, deputy of Ireland, complains of want of intelligence, 23. Apprehensive of danger from sending troops out of the country, 70. Recommends toleration and successive parliaments, 112. His encomium upon the protector's proceedings, 136. His account of some designs carried on in Ireland, 139. Complains of a book, entitled, *Arguments against Transplantation*, *ibid.* His proceedings in relation to compositions, 145. His reflections

upon the divisions in the army, 183, 196. His recommendation of capt. Kingdown, *ibid.* His opinion about erecting courts of justice in Ireland, 196, 305. Proceedings in the business of transplantation, *ibid.* His reflections upon the troubles in England, 245, 292. Advises the enlargement of adjutant Allen, 246. Congratulate the state on the suppression of the insurrection, 305. Precautions taken by him to intercept the cavaliers coming over to Ireland, *ibid.* His letter to secretary Thurloe concerning some papers dispersed by col. Birch, 3, 63. about general Ludlow, 407, 743. Touching the settling of the courts of justice in Ireland, 421. on behalf of mr. Standish, 444. touching the protestants in Piedmont, 468. Complains of great want of money, *ibid.* His account of the dispositions of the people with regard to the protector, 558. Proposes col. Clark and col. Kelsey, to be governors of Galloway and Cork, *ibid.* His letter to the protector about the same, 567. His account of proceedings in the affair of transplantation, 612. Proposes to make a collection for the protestants of Piedmont, *ibid.* Desires an order for establishing H. Cromwell's pay, 632. His reflections upon the defeat of the English at Hispaniola, 690. Recommends col. Phaire, major Willis, and capt. Deane to secretary Thurloe, *ibid.* Receives orders to come over to England, 697. His account of the disbanding of the forces in Ireland, 710. Desires secretary Thurloe to move the protector for the immediate sending away of the troops from England, *ibid.*
Flushing, several cant letters from thence intercepted, 601, 602, 603.
Folleville, monsieur, charged with occasioning the duke of Guise's defeat at Naples, 47. Ordered to be sent prisoner to Paris, 84.
Forington, mr. his account of the disposition of the people in Wiltshire, 162.
Fortescue, colonel, recommended for a commissioner for Barbados, 4. Appointed commander of the English at Jamaica, in case of the death of Venables, 581. His several accounts of the condition of the English in the West-Indies, 649, *seq.* 674, *seqq.* His representation against the proceedings of col. Butler, 681.
Fothergill, col. John, his letter to major Haynes about securing the town of Sudbury, 236. Commendation of him, 294.
Foster, Nicholas, seized at Aylesbury, on suspicion of being concerned in the late insurrection, 281.
Foster, William his information, 166.
Fouquet, monsieur, attends Mazarin to give an account of the publick money, 401.
Fox, capt. Thomas, his examination on oath, 289.
France, chancellor of, against a rupture with England, 10.
Frazer, doctor, attends the duke of Gloucester at Antwerp, 53.
Frelco, Ugo, the Genoese ambassador at London obtains audience, 101. His civility to Nieuport, *ibid.* Desires that the Genoese may enjoy the same privileges with the natives of England, 118.
French king, proposal of a marriage between him and the duke of Savoy's daughter, 1. Forbids the parliament of Rennes meddling in a certain process, 2. His letter to the protector, 12. Reviews his regiment of guards, 40. Proposal for his marriage with the Infanta of Spain, 85. His diversions, *ibid.* and 131. Treats of a marriage with the duke of Savoy's sister, 92. Character given of him by Conway, 106. Sends his companies of guards to join a convoy for Quesnoy, 131. His order for seizing all English ships in his ports, 198. Grants monsieur Villere a pass to return into Italy, 327. Prohibits the meeting of the Parliament, 329. Goes with the court to Compeigne to celebrate the marriage of the duke of Modena with the cardinal's niece, 430. Proposes to command the army in person, 440, 679, 683. Removes to la Fere, and thence to his armies, 465. Said to be enamoured of lady Manchini, cardinal Mazarin's niece, 480, 671. Sends a compliment to the king of Sweden, *ibid.* Goes from Compeigne, 489. Goes to view the army about Chauny and Moile, 501. Much troubled at the massacres in Piedmont, 503. In danger of being killed at the bridge of la Fere, 519. Particulars of that accident, 535. His behaviour thereupon, *ibid.* Disowns the actions against the Hugonots in Savoy, *ibid.* Sends mareschal Grammont to Guise, to take care of the army, 543. Dispatches a messenger to the pope, touching cardinal de Retz, 544. Continues at la Fere, 557. His letter to the protector satisfactory, *ibid.* Refuses the sum offered him by the states of Bretagne, 564. Removes from la Fere to Soissons on

I N D E X.

- on the approach of prince Condé's forces, 577. Outrage offered to the secretary of his closet, 579. Occasion of it, *ibid.* His decree, relating to the protestants, 657. Is at Guise, 658. Causes *Te Deum* to be sung, for the taking of Landrecy, *ibid.* His voyage to Landrecy deferred, *ibid.* Holds a council at Guise, 679. His proposal to the duke of Orleans, *ibid.* Goes from Guise to Marolles, 683. Number of his troops there, *ibid.* Jealous of the secret levies made by the protestants in Languedock, 684. His interview with the duke of Mantua, 742.
- French*, come with a fleet before Naples, 1. Depart out of Piedmont, *ibid.* Defeated at Naples, 4. Ship sunk at Mondragon, 5. Order money and necessaries to be sent to the duke of Guise, 9. Reform their regiments, *ibid.* Displeased with the demands of the protector, 10. In fear of Blake's fleet, *ibid.* Divided about a rupture with England, *ibid.* and 44. Rencontre between them and the Spaniards near Naples, 11. Their fleet arrives at Leghorn, 12. Fortify their sea coasts for fear of the English, 40, 47, 48. Their marine in good order, 45. Take a small place from the Spaniards near le Baillee, *ibid.* Afraid of a war with England, 47. Complain of the pope, 48. Their fleet gets into Toulon, 53. Defeated at Lens, 54. Particulars of that action, *ibid.* Farmers of the taxes, their offer to the king, 85. Officers of the Finances removed, *ibid.* Glad of the death of the pope, 87. Prepare a convoy for provisions to Quesnoy, 102. Condemn the captors of a Dutch ship called the Hope, to make restitution, 103. Desirous in general of peace, 235. Stop all the English and Dutch ships, 269. Arm at Marseilles, 321. Oppress the Reformed at Nismes, 405. Invest Landrecy, 479. Their army lies without action, 535. Reinforce Guise and St. Quintin, 562. Conjecture about the design of their armada at Toulon, 563. Splendidly entertain the duke of Mantua, 657. Design to send the duke of York out of France upon the conclusion of the treaty with England, 679. Five of their Gallies, and all the crews lost, 683. Their fleet sails from Toulon, 740.
- French* ambassador in Sweden. See *Avangour*.
 ——— ambassador in England. See *Bordeaux*.
 ——— ambassador at the Hague. See *Cbanut*.
 ——— ambassador at Rome. See *Lionne*.
Frere, Thomas, his confession, 163.
Friesland, states of, insist upon calling the ambassadors in England to account, 81, 84.
Fryer, . . . his examination touching the plot, 65.
Funsaldagna, count, afraid of appearing at Antwerp, 38. Refuses to send relief to le Baillee, 45. His secretary secured, 53. Ground of the suspicion against him, *ibid.*
- G.
- GAGE*, Thomas, his observations upon the West-Indies presented to the protector, 59, seqq.
Gaine, Amy, her information, 648.
Gamarra, Esteven, the Spanish ambassador at the Hague, his letter to Cardenas touching his negotiations, 155. Conjecture about the reason of his not visiting the prince's royal, 293. His memorial to the states general touching their resolution of retorsion upon the country of Limburg, 588. Publishes the defeat of the English at Hispaniola, 671.
Gardner, Arthur, his examination, 288.
Gay, Robert, information touching one Bernard Waite, a disaffected clergyman, 280.
Geneva, Syndich and council of, the account of their massacres and cruelties on the Protestants of Piedmont, 412. Their letter to the protector, in behalf of the distressed protestants, 589.
Genoa, states of, their differences with Spain said to be accommodated, 28. Under a necessity of siding with Spain, 154. Offer their friendly offices to the protector's fleet, 332. Probability of a war between them and Spain, 365. Their ambassador there retires from court, 428.
 ——— ambassador of, at Paris. See *Spinola*.
 ——— at London. See *Frelco*.
Germany, emperor of, prepares an army, 19, 22. Nominates an ambassador to the great duke of Muscovy, 21. Offers his mediation between Spain and Genoa, 40. Advises the king of Spain to a peace, 235. Displeased with the quarrel between the protestants and catholics, 414. Preparation for crowning him and the empress, 451. The amount of his levies, 555. Gives indulgence to the protestants out of fear of the king of Sweden, 670. Returns to Vienna from the diet in Hungary, 683. Conjecture about his design in levying forces, 749.
Germany, princes of, resolve to give no further relief to king Charles, 69. Continue their armaments, 198.
Gernon, mrs. Mary, desires leave for the earl of Arundel to come home from Venice, 695.
Gerrard, lord, proposed to go to France from king Charles to treat with the queen mother and duke of York, 659. Intends, to attempt to assassinate the protector, *ibid.*
Ghili, cardinal, elected pope, 326. See *Pope*.
Gibbon, colonel, his proceedings in raising forces in Kent, 282. Proposes a way for the payment of them, *ibid.* His proposal about settling the militia there, 291. His letters to the protector touching lieutenant col. Lilburne, 512, 629.
Gill, Jasper, his information touching the plot, 172.
Gleane, mr. George, his account of a rising in Wales, 218.
Gloucester, duke of, resolution taken about him at king Charles's court, 44. Goes to his sister in Holland, 45. Falls sick at Antwerp, 53. Passes through Brussels incognito, 55. Hindered from turning catholic by the king, 69. Comes to his sister's court, 114. Goes to Cologne, 451. Learns Italian, intending for Rome, 465.
Glover, Richard, his examination, 72, —75.
Glyn, serjeant, 332.
Gonzaga, marquis, taken prisoner at Naples, 11. See *Guise*.
Goodson, vice-admiral, a commander in the expedition to the West-Indies, 11. Appointed commander of the squadron ordered to remain there, 582. His instructions, *ibid.* & seq. His account of the condition of the fleet under him, 632.
Gorcum, a Burgomaster of that town apprehended by order of the court of Holland, but rescued by the citizens, 615. Means used to accommodate that difference, 633. One of the Burgomaster's houses demolished there, 667.
Gorge, William, an intercepted letter for him, 495.
Gough, colonel, hindered in his design of attacking a party of royalists at Salisbury by divisions among the officers, 237, seq.
 ——— Francis, his deposition about the plot, 290.
Grammont, duke of, expected at Paris, 11.
Grandpré, count de, exchanged for mr. Coligny Salignac, arrives at Paris, 85.
Grafian, Manoel, a letter of intelligence from him, 750, seq.
Gravesend, examinations of several persons apprehended there, 205.
Green, Richard, in the insurrection at Sarum, his petition to the protector, 332.
Grey, lord, apprehended, 148.
Griffith, captain John, his proceedings in order to quell an insurrection in North Wales, 216, seq. 223. Sends the particulars of it to secretary Thurloe, 226. Desires that somebody may be appointed to apprehend suspected persons, *ibid.* His account of the dispersing of the cavaliers about Chester and Wales, 263. His proceedings in order to apprehend lord Wilmot, and others, 273. Recommends some alteration in the commission for Chester, *ibid.* Apprehensive of some trouble from a discontented officer, 300. His account of the escape of sir Richard Maleverer, and mr. Walter, 304. And of the apprehending of several other persons, 682.
Griffiths, William, his examination, 219.
 ——— John, his information, 244.
Groningen, deputies of, their letter to the states general, 438.
 ——— province of, in a very perplexed situation, 552.
Grove, Andreas, Janfon, sent prisoner from Dover to London, 325.
 ——— John, secures several suspicious persons, 352. Gives information of a person from France, who had a design on the protector's life, *ibid.* His representation against Bradshaw a schoolmaster at Wye, *ibid.*
 ——— Hugh, imprisoned at Exeter, 306. Condemned, 394. His speech at his execution, 445.
Guise, duke of, makes a descent near Naples, 2. Defeated, 4. Refuses the marquis Gonzaga in exchange for prince Castellaneta, 5. Occasion of his defeat, 8, 52. Particulars of that action, 9, seqq. Narrowly escapes, 10. Reflection upon this expedition, 13. Loss sustained by it, 27, seq. 39, seq. 48. Arrives at Yeres, 35. Consequences of his defeat, 39. Sends an account of the affair to court, 40. His behaviour at Toulon, 47. Lays the blame of his miscarriage upon monsieur de Foleville, *ibid.* Goes to St. Baulme to perform a vow, 85. His forces retire to Provence and Dauphiné, *ibid.*

Gull,

I N D E X.

- Gull*, Peter, the Danish ambassador at Stockholm, prepares to take his leave, 424.
- *Erich*, appointed resident at Stockholm in the room of the ambassador, 424.
- Gunter*, John, gives information of the proceedings of the anabaptists in Wales, 291. His intelligence of designs carried on in favour of king Charles in Germany and Sweden, 345.
- Gustavus*, prince, brother to the king of Sweden, receives a present from the magistrates of Venice, 5.
- H.
- Hacker*, colonel Francis, apprehends lord Grey, and capt. Bodell, 148. His information of a design of the inferior officers, *ibid.* Secures capt. Baldwin, 395.
- Hudham*, Samuel, his examination, 349. His wife's examination, *ibid.*
- Haines*, col. Henry, his proceedings in securing the counties of Essex and Suffolk, 228, 247, 253. His account of the situation of affairs there after the suppressing of the insurrection, 284, seq. 292, 294. His recommendation of col. Fothergill, 294. His intelligence touching lord Maynard and lord Lucas, 574.
- Hamborough* merchants, their remonstrance and petition to the protector, 118.
- Harach*, count, resolves to return to his archbishoprick of Prague, 417. Not received as ambassador from the emperor by the new pope, *ibid.*
- Harcourt*, count of, sent for to court, 9. Delivers up his government of Brisack, &c. to the cardinal, 45.
- Harmer*, mr. Ralph, his remonstrance against the commissioners lately sent to Bristol for settling the militia, 268.
- Haro*, don Lewis de, his house burnt at Madrid, 54.
- Harris*, major John, his information touching certain pamphlets against the protector, 149.
- *fr* Thomas, information against him touching a designed insurrection, 209, 211, 214. Apprehended, 215. His examination, 285. Offers to make a discovery, 350, 356.
- Harrison*, capt. Thomas, his proceedings against the cavaliers, 252. Representation in favour of *fr* Henry Pamour, *ibid.* & seq.
- *mr.* Thomas, his encomium upon H. Cromwell, and account of the good disposition of the people of Ireland, 715.
- *Richard*, said to have a hand in the plot against the protector, 345.
- Hastlerigg*, *fr* Arthur, information against him, 185.
- Hatfield*, Henry, his account of the motions of the royalists in Somersetshire, 246.
- Haynes*, major-general, killed at Hispaniola, 506.
- Heane*, colonel, recommended for a commissioner for Barbados, 4.
- Hedworth*, captain, and others, their letter to several other officers, desiring a meeting at Edinburgh, intercepted, 29.
- Heidelberg*, elector of, corresponds with king Charles, 198.
- Heinsius*, Dutch resident in Sweden, his letter upon receipt of his commission, 15. His first audience, 24. Objection to the superscription of his credentials, *ibid.* Desires a general credential, 80. His several accounts of the affairs and designs of Sweden, 414, 424, 433, 434, 555, 578, 641. His letter to Ruyfch, touching the Dutch fleet designed for the Baltic, 533. Proposes to the states general to reduce the rate of interest, 702.
- Hely*, James, his information touching the rising at Sarum, 655.
- Henderson*, *fr* John, his letter to secretary Thurloe, 492.
- Henage*, mr. Richard, his information of a meeting at Salop, 530.
- Henn*, mr. his account of the escape of lord Rochester and Nicholas Armorer at Aylesbury, 335, seq.
- Herbert*, Thomas, clerk of the council in Ireland, his account of the securing of col. Eyre, 124. Sends a copy of lieutenant general Ludlow's parole to secretary Thurloe, 142. His letter to secretary Thurloe concerning col. Eyre and col. Trefwell, 364.
- Heresicks*, persons so nominated by the clergy at London, 35.
- Hill*, Roger, his letter to secretary Thurloe touching the trials at Sarum, 365.
- Hispaniola*, account of the defeat of the English there, 505, seq. 689.
- Holden*, Humphrey, gives information of several of king Charles's agents in London under fictitious names, 529.
- Holdepi*, colonel, his behaviour censured by capt. Butler, 754.
- Hole*, mr. his account of the motions of the cavaliers about Salisbury, 246.
- Holland*, states of, advise the renewal of the negotiations with France, 2. The result of their meeting, 14. Propose a reduction of their cavalry, *ibid.* Apprehensive of the royalists engaging them in a war with England, 20. Points upon which they are summon'd to meet, 49, 50. Unwilling to quarrel with Spain, 49. Their resolution upon the declaration of Beverning, touching the seclusion, 97. Resolve to write to Nieuport to procure a repeal of the placart, 109. Oppose the election of a mareschal de camp, *ibid.* Subjects deliberated upon in the assembly, 115. Summon'd, 155. Substance of their debates relating to affairs in the Baltick, 193. Inclined to an alliance with the elector of Brandenburg, *ibid.* Oppose king Charles's coming into Holland, 255. Their summons to the members upon the subject of the augmentation of convoys, 436. Resolve to write to Nieuport, touching the Swedish envoy's desire of raising some Scots forces, 492. Propose to send deputies to the Swiss cantons, to urge them to the assistance of the Vaudois, 494. Disband the earl of Stierum for taking service under the Swede, 524. Reflections upon their design to enter into alliance with Denmark, 525, seq. Refuse to give the command of the fleet to prince William, 530. Confer with the ministers of Denmark, concerning the designs of the Swedes, 616. Propose to found the protector in respect to Sweden, 618. Oppose the orders for making retortion against the country of Limburgh, 632, 667. Name commissioners to examine the proposition of Overysfel, 633. Their true design in proposing to send an extraordinary commissioner to Denmark, 666. Their sincerity in relation to Brandenburg suspected, *ibid.* Their answer to the demand of the Poles, *ibid.* Dissuade the lord Capell from signing the treaty with Brandenburg, *ibid.* Labour for the reduction of interest, 667. Their real end in proposing the return of the cavalry to their old garrisons, *ibid.* Agree in the treaty with Brandenburg, *ibid.* Reflections thereupon, *ibid.* & seq. Holland and West Friesland, their resolution touching the payment of the troops who served in Brazil, 692. A paper concerning their finances, 694. Reflections upon their resolution relating to the privileges granted to the English merchants, 723.
- province of, groundless report of their entering into engagements with Cromwell, to avoid the dominion of the house of Orange, 7. Their objections to the prince of Orange's being made captain general, 50. Their interest to keep a good correspondence with the protector, 79. Determine to indemnify Beverning and Nieuport for passing the act of seclusion, *ibid.* Desirous of the success of the treaty between England and France, upon account of their commerce, 293. Seem disposed to assist Deventer, *ibid.*
- Holland*, William, warrant for securing him and others on suspicion of being concerned in the late insurrection, 281.
- Holmes*, major, ordered to attend the protector, 46.
- Honywood*, *fr* Thomas, warrant to pay him 500 l. 688.
- Hoop*, Charles, a Swedish senator, dies, 424. His character, *ibid.*
- Hops*, captain, seizes *fr* Henry Lyttelton and *fr* John Packington, 78. His account of the state of affairs in Worcestershire, 297.
- Howard*, col. Charles, apprehends several persons at Newark, 568.
- Hugonots*. See *Protestants*. Two Hugonot ministers at Paris, and others, abjure their opinions, 464.
- Hull*, garrison, account of it's condition, 239, seq. Caution given to secure it, 280.
- Hungary*, king of, preparations for his election, 451. See *Leopold*, *Ignatius*.
- states of, desire leave of the emperor to elect prince *Leopold* king, 605.
- diet of, ends to the satisfaction of both protestants and catholicks, 683.
- Hungerford*, Thomas, several intercepted letters from him concerning the designs of the cavaliers, 662, seqq.
- Hunt*, mr. under condemnation for treason, escapes, 453.
- Hyde*, *fr* Edward, corresponds with the pope's nuncio, 19. Quarrels with Wentworth, 114. Falls sick at the Hague, 457. Endeavours to separate king Charles from the queen and prince Rupert, 459.
- I.
- Jacob*, Thomas, his examination touching the plot, 288.
- Jackson*, adjutant general, his cowardly behaviour at Hispaniola, 3.

I N D E X.

Hispaniola, 506. Description of it, 507, seq. 545.—
547. Resolution of the council of officers there, 523.
Jamaica, representation of the great usefulness of this island
to the English, 565. State of the English affairs there,
674, seq. 682. Proclamation for settling a colony there,
753. Account of the landing of the English there, 755.
James, William, an English pirate, order of the states gene-
ral for seizing him, 718.
Jannot, monsieur, the French consul, general reasons for not
admitting him in that quality at Rotterdam, 80.
Jenki, Joseph, his information, 230.
Jennings, captain John, his account of a discourse held with
mr. John Ashburnham, 548.
Jermyn, lord, with the duke of York at Paris, 235. To go
to Cologne to know king Charles's pleasure concerning the
duke, 579.
Jersey, isle of, a petition relating thereto, 213. Order there-
upon, *ibid.* Report of the commissioners appointed to ex-
amine into it, *ibid.* Order to the governor touching the
securing of it, 231.
Jessop, mr. William, takes the examination of Joun Corbin,
touching a design of falling upon the soldiers in their quar-
ters, 42.
Inchiquin, lord, his regiment cast away in the duke of Guise's
retreat from Italy, 39.
Infantado, duke of, courts the Genoese to an alliance with
the Spaniards, 154.
Ingram, William, his examination touching sir Arthur Hasel-
rig's correspondence with king Charles, 353.
John, don of Austria. See *Austria*.
Jones, colonel Philip, his instructions for securing the garri-
son of Shrewsbury, 220. His letter to secretary Thurloe,
touching lady Littcot's business, 686.
— Richard, his information touching the insurrection,
316.
— Francis, his examination concerning the insurrecti-
on, 344. Requests secretary Thurloe to mediate with the
protector for his pardon, 504.
— Edward, his deposition touching the insurrection in
Montgomeryshire, 310.
— Thomas, his examination on oath, touching a com-
pany at sir Thomas Harris's, 284, 342.
— Anne, her deposition concerning the same, 272.
Jongestetal, thought to incite the provinces to insist upon
calling Beverning and Nieupoort to an account, 84.
Ireland, letter from several officers there, touching the pro-
testants of Piedmont, 465. Persons nominated for judges
of the courts of justice established there, 549. Other regu-
lations made touching the government of that kingdom, 623.
— Deputy and council of. See *Fleetwood*. Desire the
protector's further order touching sir Brice Cockeran, 18.
And directions about colonel Eyres and colonel Treswell,
364.
— colonel, takes security for the appearance of colonel
Werden, 359.
Irisb, suspected of designs against the government, 139. In
great hopes of a sudden change, 196. Expect the arrival
of Ormonde and others from king Charles, *ibid.*
Isley, George, his examination, 89.
Italy, princes of, order the people near the highway to
Rome, to retire into walled towns, on account of the
French forces, 1. Troubled at the peace between Sweden
and Brandenburg, 144.
Jubb, captain, complaint against him by the mayor, &c. of
Southampton, 273.
Judges, seized at Sarum affizes by the cavaliers, 221. Set
at liberty by colonel Boteler, 243. Representation from
several of the judges at York to the solicitor general con-
cerning their commissions, 359.

K.

K*eamer*, lieutenant, ordered to attend the protector, 46.
Keate, mr. his information touching the insurrection
at Sarum, 648.
Kelsey, colonel, apprehends several suspected persons, but re-
leases most of them upon bail, 300. List of horses seized
by him, *ibid.*
Kemping, mr. his business at the Hague, 14.
Kingdon, captain, recommendation of him, 183.
Kitson, mr. his information touching the insurrection at Sa-
rum, 648.
Koningmark, no friend to the protector, 277. Levies forces
for the king of Sweden, *ibid.* Proposed to command a
third separate army, 424.
VOL. III.

Kynaston, Ralph, his deposition touching the plot to surprize
Shrewsbury castle, 209. His further examination, 210.
His confession, 211. His letter to John Kynaston, esq;
214. Depositions taken concerning him, 259. Sent up
to London, 336.
— Thomas, his account of proceedings against some
persons at Conway concerned in the plot against the go-
vernment, 168.

L.

L*acy*, William, his information, 156.
Lambert, major general, receives intelligence of some
dangerous persons, 329. Caution given him by Manning,
591.
Landgrave, cardinal, to receive the hat from the new Pope,
402.
Landrecy, besieged by the French, 563. Loss sustained by
the besiegers in a sally, *ibid.* Proceedings in the siege,
557, 577, 610. The besiegers in great want of provi-
sions, 588. The place surrendered, 617. Te Deum sung
at Paris upon that account, 671.
Langdale, sir Marmaduke, proposes to follow king Charles, 322.
Langton, Alexander, his examination touching the plot, 701.
Langris, bishop of, dies, 131. Person talk'd of to succeed
him, *ibid.*
Laurence, mr. Richard, his account of some proceedings at
Constantinople, 726.
Lawson, vice-admiral, information against him, 185.
— captain, his recommendation of vice-admiral Ble-
witt, 269.
Leay, captain, apprehended, 252.
Lechmere, mr. his account of the situation of affairs at Wor-
cester, 290.
LeGours, bishop of, dies, 85.
Leda, marquis de, prepares for his embassy to England, 54.
Acquaints the protector of the necessity of his return to
Flanders, 154. Splendidly conducted to Gravesend, 570.
His business in England only to make a compliment, *ibid.*
Said to be gone away dissatisfied, 613.
Lee, Robert, his examination, 202.
Leger, mr. minister at Geneva, extracts of several of his let-
ters to mr. Stoupe concerning the protestants of Piedmont,
459, seqq.
Le Grand, Jaques, merchant at Cologne, an intercepted let-
ter to him, 676.
Le Maire, monsieur, acquaints secretary Thurloe of his arri-
val at the Hague, 429.
Lemprier, Michael, esq; constituted bailiff of the isle of
Jersey, 688.
Leopold, archduke. See *Austria*.
— Ignatius, elected king of Hungary, 532. His coro-
nation deferred, 539. Reason of it, *ibid.*
Lefno, earl of, chief of the Polish ambassadors in Sweden,
671. See *Polish* ambassadors.
Lilburne, col. Robert, his proceedings in apprehending sus-
pected persons about York, 226. His account of proceed-
ings in relation to the trial of the prisoners there, 359,
seq. Suspects some in commission, 360. Secures lord
John Bellasis, 587. Recommends mr. John Drummond
to the protector, 729.
— John, confined in Elizabeth castle, representation
of the governor concerning him, 512. Desires his father
may be sent to him, 629.
Limburgh, country of, debates and proceedings touching the
making of retorsion against it, 632, seq. 666.
Lincoln, commissioners, their proceedings in securing the peace
of the county, 311.
Linie, president, prince Condé's confidant, taken prisoner by
the garrison of Quesnoy, 565.
Lionne, monsieur de, sent by the French king to Rome, 11.
Receives audience of the college of cardinals in the con-
clave, 131. His account of the dispute betwixt the French
king and the pope touching cardinal de Retz, 578.
Lisle, John, one of the commissioners of the great seal,
takes his seat in the court of chancery, 570.
Littcott, sir John. See *Thurloe*.
Littleton, sir Henry, apprehended 78. His examination in
the tower, 129.
— Charles, his examination, 107, seq.
Lloyd, James, his examination, 70, seq.
— Morgan and Daniel, with others, send intelligence of
a rising designed in Denbighshire, 207.
London, militia of, resolutions of the commissioners relating
thereto, 221, 318.

London,

I N D E X.

- London*, city, advice to the protector about disarming it, 276.
- Longland*, mr. agent at Leghorn, his several letters of intelligence, relating to the affairs of Italy, France, Spain, &c. 1, 12, 244, 321, 374, 422, 428, 471, 526, 550, 634, 663. Desires instructions about providing a port for general Blake's fleet, 144. Desires payment of money disbursed for horses for the protector, 154. His reflection upon the alteration in the affairs of Portugal, 321. Desires to be reimbursed his losses out of the prizes taken by general Blake, 322. His account of the insult offered to general Blake at Tunis, 326. Buys some Neapolitan horses for the protector, 526, 550. His letter to secretary Thurloe touching dr. Bayly, 641. His account of the motions and designs of the Spanish fleet in the Mediterranean, 702, 720.
- Longueville*, duke de, complimented by cardinal Mazarin, 44. Returns to his government, 45.
- Lorn*, lord, 28.
- Lorrain*, Francis of, feasted at Paris, 45. Is at Brussels, 502. Sets out for the army, 556.
- duke of, his design to escape from Toledo discovered and prevented, 420.
- Lorrainers*, two regiments revolt to the French, 28.
- Lowe*, Thomas, his examination, 91.
- Lucas*, sir Jarvise, recommended to the protector, 134.
- lord, imprisoned, 593.
- mr. proceedings in order to his trial at Sarum, 271.
- Ludlow*, lieutenant general, his answer to Fleetwood's demand of his commission, 112. Gives his parole to attend the protector in a time limited, 142. Proposal made to secretary Thurloe in relation to him, 407. His engagement, 744.
- Ludovico*, Nicolao, prince, likely to be reinstated at Rome, upon the success of the Spaniards against the duke of Guise, 4.
- Lush*, Martha, her information, touching the insurrection at Sarum, 648.
- Lyon*, colonel. See *Bordeaux*.
- M.
- M***aches*, Edmond, under condemnation, his petition, 375.
- Mackworth*, colonel, gives information of an intended insurrection through England and Wales, 208. His proceedings in securing the garrison of Shrewsbury, 218. His account of sir John Reynolds's escape, 706.
- Maddocks*, John, his examination, 229.
- Magnum*, count Gabriel, appointed governor of Lyfland, 534.
- Makam*, Bevis, his information, 155.
- Maleverer*, sir Richard, makes his escape with mr. Walter, 304.
- Malta*, grand master, sends an ambassador to condole with the emperor on the death of the king of the Romans, 21. Excuses his not receiving the duke of Guise's forces into his island, 48. Writes to the pope to endeavour to procure a peace in Europe, *ibid*.
- Mancini*, monsieur, proposed to marry one of the duchess of Elguillon's nieces, 85.
- Manning*, mr. offers to make discoveries to Thurloe, 190, 195. Desires money from him, 224. and a cypher, 301. His information against several persons, 302. His intelligence about the proceedings of King Charles and his agents, 339. His advice relating thereto, *ibid*, seq. His further account of the designs of king Charles and his agents, 390, 457, 591, seq. Ordered to meet the duke of Gloucester and others coming to Cologne, 457. Sends an account of the persons with king Charles at Cologne, 458. His caution to general Lambert, 591.
- Mantua*, duke of, splendidly entertained by the French court, 657. Makes a new league with them, 670. Conditions of it, *ibid*.
- old duchess of, leaves the court of Spain, and goes to Milan, 479.
- Marbury*, messieurs, information against them, 53.
- Marcheville*, monsieur de, 128. See *Cezzi*.
- Marchio*, count, set at liberty by the new pope, 401.
- Mariembourg*, the powder magazine there blown up, 471. A fresh supply of ammunition sent thither, *ibid*.
- Marley*, sir John, maintained by the earl of Newcastle at Antwerp, 207.
- Robert, his examination, 207.
- Marshall*, George, warden of New-college Oxford, his letter to the protector inclosing intelligence from Hamburg concerning some designs in favour of king Charles, 345.
- Martinozzi*, cardinal Mazarin's niece, married to the duke of Modena's eldest son, 454. Her portion, 482.
- Maffey*, major, intelligence of his being in England, 185. Proceedings thereupon, 177, seq. Arrives at Hamburg, and entertained by some of the English company of merchants, 741.
- Mauray*, monsieur, a priest at Paris sent to the Bastille, 671. Reason of it, *ibid*.
- Maurice*, prince, 20. His conference with the Dutch commissioners, 23. Endeavours to forward the devies in Westphalia, 50. Refuses to be under the command of Brederode, 530. Makes report of the bad condition of the cavalry, 633.
- Mayerne*, sir Theodore, his death, 312.
- Maynard*, lord, seized and imprisoned, 593.
- Mazarin*, cardinal, his niece proposed to marry the duke of Savoy, 1. His father's death, 2. Makes great preparations against Naples, 10. His measures disconcerted by the duke of Guise's defeat, 39. His reprimand to Servien and Fouquet, 40. His letters and advice to Bordeaux, 41, 58, 117, 124, 302, 327, 457, 742. His conjectures about the design of the English fleet, 59. Against a peace with Spain, 235. Censures Bordeaux for his conduct in the treaty, 327, 343, 457. Disavows his being accessory to any commotions in England, 327. Very desirous of peace with England, 343. Orders the English ships to be released, 351. Dissatisfied with cardinal Anthony Barbarini, 417. His cabinet robbed, 434. His niece married to the duke of Modena's eldest son, 454. Keeps other correspondents in England besides the ambassador, 465. Desires him to buy some horses for his own use, 475. Portion given by him with his niece, 482. Goes from Compeigne to la Fere, 491. Sends a person privately to confer with king Charles, 533. Excuses the massacre of the protestants in Piedmont, 536. Holds a council of war at Laon, 543. Prevents cardinal Antonio Barbarini's embassy to France, 550. Difference between him and the pope, relating to cardinal de Retz, 720. Subject of his conference with the commissioner sent into Savoy by the protector, 731.
- Maxine*, captain intelligence of his being come over to England, 590. His business there, *ibid*.
- Medici*, cardinals de, have cardinal Pimentelli's benefices conferred upon them by the new pope, 401.
- Meilleraye*, mareschal de, his son's marriage with one of the cardinal's nieces broken off, 131. Harangues the states of Bretagne to induce them to furnish the sum demanded by the king, 564.
- Menghem*, count, an attempt made to assassinate him in his coach at Brussels, 456. The assassin taken, *ibid*.
- Merchants*, English, their petitions to the protector touching their losses by the Portuguese, 198, 200. Their case, 199. Exceptions to the king of Portugal's decree, 201.
- Mercœur*, duke of, relieves Rola, and takes Cape de Quies, 487. Order for his commanding under his father revoked, 727.
- Middleborp*, Peter, caution taken about him at Dover, 164.
- Middleton*, lieut. general, his forces greatly reduced, 3, 28. His letter to Mac Gregour, proposing to lay down their arms, intercepted, 42. Permitted to do so by the king, 44. Capitulates, 99. Returns to Cologne in great esteem, 532. An intercepted letter from him to the earl of Athol, 732. Another to Glencairne, 733.
- sir Thomas, his letter to mr. Lloyd touching the intended insurrection in England and Wales, recommended to have a commission for raising a regiment, 298.
- Milan*, state of, bound to assist the catholics of Switzerland, 144.
- Miller*, captain, his examination touching major general Overton, 197.
- Minard*, monsieur, secretary to the French ambassador in England, 45. His letters to the ambassador, 326, 513.
- Minors*, John, information against him and others for coining, 422.
- Minsky*, taken by the Russians, 714.
- Missenden*, mr. his observations upon the transactions in Holland and Brabant, 13. Puts a trick upon the Dutch lawyers, about the affair of Amboyna, *ibid*.
- Mocenigo*, dies in Candia, 5.
- Modena*, duke of, departs dissatisfied from Paris, 92. Made the French king's general for Italy, 154. Beats back the Spanish forces to Milan, 321. Occasion of the quarrel between them, *ibid*. Marries one of cardinal Mazarin's nieces, 454.
- Modyford*. See *Muddysford*.
- Monck*, general, his letter to secretary Thurloe, 3. Advertises the protector of a design against him, 28. Desires insurrections

I N D E X

- instructions concerning lord Lorn, *ibid.* A letter from several officers of his regiment intercepted, 29. Secures some of them, 45, seq. 66. Further account of his proceedings, 46, 55, 76, seq. 99. Refuses to agree to a cessation of arms with Middleton, *ibid.* His letter to the protector in favour of the remonstrators, 117. His representation of the wants of the army, 130. His reflections upon the behaviour of Harrison and others, 179. Receives information of a design against him, 185. Sends several intercepted letters to the protector, 217. Desires money to pay the troops, *ibid.* Gives information about one Finley, an agent for king Charles in London, 313. His letter to the protector touching the earl of Calander, 411. Silences one Mr. Hogg, a preacher in Scotland, 440. His representation touching several prisoners discharged from Barbados, 488. Recommends a Scottish gentleman who is very intimate with king Charles and may be useful to the protector, 700. Commission appointing him and others of the council in Scotland, 711.
- Monro*, sir George, deserts Middleton, 42.
- Montalto*, cardinal, dies of a gluttonish disease, 402. Favours done him by the pope, *ibid.* A friend to the Spaniards, *ibid.* Dies in debt, 417.
- Montgomeryshire*, an insurrection designed there, 207, — 209.
- Montpouillon*, monsieur de, mareschal Turenne's nephew, dangerously wounded at Landrecy, 610.
- Montreal*, archbishop of, vacant by cardinal Montalto's death, pretenders to it, 417.
- Money*, counterfeit, information against several persons for coining it, 422.
- Moon*, Richard, his examination touching a pamphlet reflecting upon the protector, 738.
- Moore*, lord, desires an enlargement of the time allowed him to compound for his estate, 145.
- William, his examination touching the plot, 375.
- Mora*, Richard, his examination touching the same, 287.
- Morell*, Mr. his letter of news to secretary Thurloe, 444.
- Morgan*, John, information against him, 225.
- Morland*, Samuel, sent by the protector to the duke of Savoy, embarks at Dover, 458. His letter to secretary Thurloe touching his travelling charges, 531. Received at Turin with great civility, 672. Justifies the proceedings of the Waldenses, 673.
- Morley*, colonel, seizes and sends several suspected papers to secretary Thurloe, 369.
- Morris*, Andrew, his information against Thomas Smith, 352.
- colonel, account of his behaviour at Barbados, 250.
- Muscovy*, terrible havock made there by the plague, 26.
- Muddiford*, colonel, his observations concerning the West-Indies, 62, 63. Incenses the council of Barbados, 250. Commendation of his behaviour, *ibid.* His account of the ill success of the English Troops at Hispaniola, 365. Presses the sending of a re-inforcement to Jamaica, *ibid.* His representation of the dangerous situation of Barbados, arising from divisions in the assembly, *ibid.* & seq. His account of several other transactions there, 620, 683.
- Muscovites*, take the fort of Dunenberg, 108. Reflection upon their intemperance, 175, 426. Worsted in an action with the Poles, *ibid.* Appear upon the frontiers of Livonia, 424. Beaten from Dunenberg, 539.
- Muscovy*, czar of, progress of his arms against Poland, 25, seq. 714. Disgusts the foreign officers in his army by not fulfilling his promises, 26. Loses his uncle Romanus, *ibid.* Accommodates matters with Persia, 27. Banishes the English from Archangel, 50. Demands a passage for 50,000 men through Lyfland, 108. Manner of his entrance into Mosco, 173. Ceremony observed at his leaving it, 257. The true reason of his not allowing the English ambassador to go over land to Riga, 258. Ground of the war between him and Poland, 388. Number of his troops, 426. His court and character, 711, seqq.
- chancellor of, his answer to the proposals of Mr. Prideaux, 575, seq.
- ambassador of, at Vienna, departs, 22.
- envoy of, at the Hague, his extraordinary demands and propositions, 747.
- N.
- N Achale*, monsieur gets into Lisbon with his squadron, 20.
- Nantz*, splendid reception given by the townsmen to mareschal de la Ferte's lady, 441.
- Napier*, lord, busy in the Highlands for king Charles, 28.
- Naples*, reflections upon the situation of affairs there, 1. Enraged against the French, 9. Several persons apprehended there for holding intelligence with them, *ibid.* Fleet goes to Cadiz to join the rest of the Spanish fleet, 154.
- viceroy of, goes to the church Madona de Constanti-nopoli to perform a vow, 5. Sets a priest at liberty upon the news of the election of the new pope, 401.
- Nass*, David, his account of the strength and designs of the Spanish fleet, 750.
- Nassau*, prince of, his letter to the states general on their decision of the differences arisen in Ommelands between the Eems and the Lauwers, 586.
- Navarr*, secretary, takes orders, 54.
- Naughton*, Mac, 28.
- Navy*, English, estimate of the charge of it, 64.
- Nedham*, captain Clement, his examination, 229.
- Nelson*, Mr. sends Mrs. Afke's examination to secretary Thurloe, 161.
- Newet*, Thomas, his examination touching the plot, 303.
- Newburgh*, duke of, levies forces against the duke of Brandenburg, 44. His lady delivered of a daughter, 100. Deals rigorously with the protestants of Juliers and Berg, 473.
- Newman*, colonel, apprehended, 252.
- Newell*, Benjamin, of Shrewsbury, his examination, 283.
- Newport*, lord Francis, and his brother, sent to the tower, 537.
- Newton*, doctor, information against him, 138.
- Nicholas*, Joseph, his proceedings in order to secure Monmouthshire against the cavaliers, 242. His account of the state of the troops and country thereabouts, 252. Desires a supply of arms, *ibid.*
- Nicoll*, Anthony, offers his services to the protector, 227.
- Nieuville*. See *Bordeaux*.
- Nieuport*, the Dutch ambassador at London, his representation touching the non-inclusion of the states general in the treaties with Sweden, Portugal, and Denmark, 21. Desires a draught of an act for the payment of the sum stipulated to the East-India company, *ibid.* Proposals for a maritime treaty with England, 32. His account of several proceedings in parliament, 35, seq. 101. Urges the business of the queen of Bohemia's creditors, 36. His conference with the English commissioners touching the maritime treaty, and other proceedings, *ibid.* & seq. His character of Bordeaux, 101. Advises the appointing of persons at the sea-port towns in England to take care of the Dutch affairs, 102. Complains of the commissions granted to privateers during the war, not being repealed, 235. His memorials concerning a Dutch ship called the Schaeep taken by one of the said privateers, 236, 419. In behalf of the Dutch merchants, 357. Touching the appointment of commissaries to adjust the differences between England and Holland, 423. His letter to the pensioner De Wit, 430. To Ruysch, touching the reformed in Piedmont, 449. Disgusts some members of the states by helping to conclude the treaty between England and France, 473. His conferences with the protector, touching the Protestants of Piedmont, 477, 527, seq. His negotiations about settling the frontiers of New Netherland in America, *ibid.* His remonstrance touching the superscription of the protector's letter to the states general, *ibid.* His proceedings in order to obtain the restitution of several ships taken by Penn and others, 527. Complains to the protector of several injuries done to the subjects of the states general by depredations, &c. 528, 623. Ordered to remonstrate against the designs of the king of Sweden, 551. His account of the regulations made by the protector in the court of Chancery, and other transactions in England, 570, seq. 593, 622, seq. 637. His letter to the states general touching the ship called the House of Shuyden, 637. His conference with the Swedish ambassador, 672. His memorial touching a ship called, the Hare in the Field taken by the English, 685. His conference with some of the council touching depredations committed by the English, 749.
- Nismes*, narrative of the state and sufferings of the protestants there, 405, seq.
- Noell*, Mr. Thomas, his account of the English forces at Santo Domingo in America, 514.
- Norfolk*, people of, disaffected to the protector, 328.
- Northumberland*, earl of, an intercepted letter to him, 106.
- Norwood*, major Henry, his examination, 65, seq. 130. A paper found in his pocket sent to secretary Thurloe, 96.
- Nottingham*, proceedings there in order to prevent the cavaliers escaping, 264.
- Nutley*.

I N D E X.

Nutley, mr. his letter to secretary Thurloe relating to the trial of the prisoners at Sarum, 372. and at Exeter, 381, 398.

O.

Olympia, Donna, restores all the writs she had of Innocent the XIth to the new pope, 401.
Ommelands, their affair decided, 595.
Ommeren, sieur, proposed to be sent as envoy from the states general to Savoy, 609, 703, seq.
Opdam, admiral, designed to command the Dutch fleet in the Baltick, 703. Debates about furnishing money for his journey, *ibid*.
Orange, prince of, divisions about his seclusion, 19, 20. abate, 22. Order for praying for him in Friesland, 23. Obstructions to his being made captain general, 50. His estate sold, *ibid*. His party prevalent in Zealand, 553. His commissioner at Brussels returns with nothing but words, 556. Debates in the states general about his education, 633.
 — prince royal of, her answer to the letter of the states of Holland touching the king's being at Ivyling, 293.
Orleans, duke of, an information against one of his followers for disrespect to the Mass, quashed, 2. Obstruction to his accommodation with the French court, 9. Means used to prevail upon him, 40, 49. Proposal made to him by the French king, 679.
 — duchess of, goes with her daughter to Blois, 442.
Ormonde, quarrels with Wilmot, 114. Reason of his not going with the duke of Gloucester, 44. Goes to the king at Cologne, 55. and thence with Newport and O-Neil to Holland in disguise, 659.
Otes, mr. and others, secured in Scotland by general Monck, 66.
Overton, colonel, secured in Scotland, 46. His letter to general Monck, *ibid*. Letters to and from him intercepted, 47, 55. A letter relating to him found with his secretary, 56. His letters to the protector, 67. To Lambert, *ibid*. To Disbrowe, 68. His verses reflecting on the protector, 75. Sent up to London, 76. Committed to the tower, 110. His answer to the charge against him, *ibid*, & seq. Information given of his designs, 185. A letter directed to him seized and sent to the protector, 217. Caution about him and his correspondents, 280.
Overijssel, province of, protest entered by the deputies of Campen and Zwol against the letters of the assembly at Deventer, 14. A justification of them exhibited, 80. Differences in the said province increase, 293. Debates in the states general about them, 446, seq.
Outremuse, country of. See *Limburgh*.
Owen, doctor John, his account of the state of affairs at Oxford, 281. Remonstrates against the proceedings of the commissioners for ejecting ministers, *ibid*. His encomium upon mr. Unton Crooke, 488.
 — Edward, his examination and deposition, touching the insurrection, 354.
 — Thomas, serjeant in the governor of Bristol's company, his information against Thomas Smith, 351.
Oxenstiern, count, his civility to mr. Rolt, the English envoy, 736. No friend to the family of the Stuarts, *ibid*.
Oysel, Jaques, his letter to Nieuport, 617.

P.

Packington, sir John apprehended, 78.
Paine, Gilbert, his examination touching his master, mr. Thomas Bray, 282.
Palestrino, prince of, breaks his leg, 5.
Palmer, George, secures several suspected persons, 68, 82, 110.
 — Jeffrey, sent prisoner to the tower, 537.
 — William, his information against sir Seymour Pyle, 309.
Pamphilio, resigns his charge of general of the church to the new pope, 401.
Paris, parliament of, dispute between them and the French court, 441, 444.
 — lieutenant of, gives orders for apprehending a person that endeavoured to stir up the people against the protestants, 564.
 — curates of, resolve not to admit persons indecently habited, to the communion, 589. Their extraordinary

attachment to cardinal de Retz, 589.
Parkes, Richard, his examination touching the insurrection, 348.
Parliament of England, their resolutions touching the army, 36. and several articles of government, *ibid*, and 101. Dissolved, 123. List of them, 132, seq. Reflection upon their proceedings, 232.
Parma, duke of, his brother arrives at Venice, 5.
Parry, Anne, her examination touching an agent of the pope in London, 167.
Patrickson, James, his examination concerning the insurrection, 452.
Pavia, besieged by prince Thomas and the duke of Modena, 657. Various reports about the success of the siege, 720.
Paul, a French commander, endeavours used by the English to take him, 9. Seizes a Spanish ship laden with corn, *ibid*. Unable to assist the duke of Guise, 48.
Peck, captain, his letter to capt. Griffith concerning an attempt designed against Wrexham, 208.
Peirce, Thomas, a prisoner in the tower, his letter to secretary Thurloe, 573.
Pell, John and Edmund Cremer, their letter to secretary Thurloe concerning one William Cobb, a disaffected person apprehended by them, 161.
 — mr. the protector's envoy in Switzerland, his account of the affairs of Geneva, 431.
Pembroke hall, fellows of, disclaim their right of choosing a master, 396.
Penaranda, conde de, appointed ambassador from Spain to the emperor, 517. Benefits conferred on him by the king, *ibid*.
Penn, admiral, commander of the fleet designed for the West-Indies, 11. Sets sail, 36. Misunderstanding between him and Venables removed, 249. Various reports about his success, 417, seq. 636, 662. Conjectures about his designs, 434. A reinforcement preparing for his fleet, 477. His commission and instructions to admiral Goodson, 582. His letter to major general Fortescue, 585. Takes the island of Canaries, and other adjacent places, 610. A reinforcement sent to his fleet, 623. His letter to the protector upon his arrival at Spithead, 752.
Penraddock, John, (with others) seizes the judges at the assizes of Sarum, 237. Proclaims king Charles at Blandford, 248. Made prisoner, 263. His design to break through the guards prevented, 381. Condemned at Exeter, 394.
Penryn, John, his examination, 202.
Petit, monsieur, his letter to mr. Augier, 10. Several letters of intelligence sent to him, 437, 442, seqq.
Petre, lord, imprisoned, 593. His letter to secretary Thurloe, praying his enlargement, 699.
Pett, mr. Peter, desires authority to search ships and vessels, for suspected persons, 720.
Phalsburgh, prince of, endeavours to bring the duke of Orleans to court, 40.
Pianezze, marquis of, commands the army against the protestants of Piedmont, 384. Receives a great affront from prince Thomas of Savoy, 628.
Pickering, Francis, his examination touching the insurrection in North Wales, 676.
Piedmont, protestants of. See *Protestant*.
Pimentelli, cardinal, his benefices given to the cardinals de Medicis by the new pope, 401.
Pinckney, William, his examination, 647.
Plessis, monsieur de, killed at Naples, 10.
Pococke, doctor, recommendation of him, 281.
Poincy, monsieur de, complaint made by the French ambassador about his being taken and detained by two English ships, 628.
Poland, king of, desirous of an alliance with the Dutch, 14. Marches towards the Black sea to oppose the Cossacks, 26. Endeavours to instigate the protector against Muscovy, 50. Makes a collection for king Charles, *ibid*. Prevails against the Cossacks, 84. Retakes a city taken from him by the Muscovites, 257. His troops intercept the provisions sent to Smolensko, 389. Expects assistance from the grand seignior, 703. Desires a parly with the king of Sweden, 727. His troops beaten by the Swedes, 728. Resolves to fight the Swedes, 736. Number of his troops, *ibid*.
Polish envoy, in England. See *Bye*.
 — at Stockholm, not admitted to audience for want of new credentials, 214. Another arrives, and obtains audience, 555. Subject of his commission, *ibid*.
 — ambassador at Vienna, departs, 22.

I N D E X.

Polish ambassadors, two arrive at Stockholm, 578. Their reception, 597. Obtain audience, 598. Their conference with the Swedish commissioners, *ibid.* Propose the French ambassador for moderator, *ibid.* Complain of the king of Sweden's refusing to admit of any mediators, 671. — resident at the Hague, demands assistance against the Swedes, 666, 733. His conference with the commissioners of the states general reported, 735.

Pope, alters his conduct upon the defeat of the duke of Guise, 4. Afraid of the consequences of his death to his friends, *ibid.* & seq. Hinders the Barbarini's from sending assistance to the duke of Guise, 10. Falls dangerously ill, 30. Names Sforza for his successor, 69. Releases the prisoners in the castle of St. Angelo, *ibid.* Restores the government of Rome to Pamphilio, *ibid.* His advice to the cardinals, 70. His death, 87, 99. Cardinals nominated to succeed him, 131. His saying about the Lutherans, 154. Differences in the conclave about the election of a new pope, 163. See *Cardinals*. Another elected, 326. Name assumed by him, 351. Agreeable to the French court, *ibid.* Account of several laudable actions done by him upon his advancement to the popedom, 401. His character, 405. Refuses to admit count Harach as ambassador from the emperor, 417. Excites the arms of Savoy against the protestants, 428. Commands all whores to depart from Rome and the ecclesiastical state, 467. A merry pasquinade thereupon, *ibid.* Makes his brother captain of the guard, 471. Labours for a general peace, 481, 721. An express sent by him to Paris, refuses to deliver his packet to any but the king, 579. Sends money to the authors of the massacre in Piedmont, 608. Proposes a marriage between the French king and the infant of Spain, 610. Endeavours to unite France, Spain and Germany against the English, *ibid.* A satirical inscription writ underneath his arms, 619. Prosecutes Donna Olympia for large sums of money put into her hands in the late pope's time, 628. Differences between him and cardinal Mazarin about cardinal de Retz, 720. — captain, recommended to secretary Thurloe to have a commission, 296.

Pope's nuncio, at Paris, his conference with the Venetian ambassador, 48. Complains of an article in the French Gazette, *ibid.*

— in Spain, goes thence to Rome, 478.

— agent at London, information given against him, 309. seq.

Portugal, become very considerable since their separation from Spain, 321.

— king of, proposes to send eight ships to reinforce mr. Nachale, 20. His decree touching English ships, 200. Exceptions to it, 201. Makes incursions into Spain, 367.

Powell, Thomas, an intercepted letter from him, 145.

— James, his account of the disposition of Bristol towards the protector, 169. seq. Sends several papers from the mayor and aldermen to him, 181. See *Aldworth*, Robert. Declines accepting the commission sent him upon account of his health, 260. Nominates mr. Blackwell in his stead, *ibid.* Desires a commission for major Harper, *ibid.* Excuses his refusing the commission offered to himself, 296. Reason of his requesting it for captain Pope instead of Blackwell, *ibid.*

— Vavafor, discovers part of the plot in North Wales, 252.

— Edward, his deposition touching the plot, 287.

Powlet, captain, killed at Hispaniola, 506.

Pratt, Michael, his examination, 228.

Preston, Elias, his examination, 269, 342.

Price, John, his information against one Burnett, 261.

— John } their examination touching the insurrection,
— Evan } 272.

Prideaux, mr. William, account of his journey from Archangel to Moscow, 24. seq. Of the progress of the czar's arms against Poland, 25. seqq. His first audience, and the manner of his reception, 173. seq. His speech to the czar, 175. His conference with the chancellor, 187. Desires the czar's answer to his propositions, and his discharge, 239. His second conference with the chancellor, 256. Complains of incivilities, *ibid.* His second audience of the czar, 257. His conjecture about the reason of the czar's refusing to let him go over land to Riga, 258. Desires money for his extraordinary expences, *ibid.* Receives orders to go to Archangel, 386. Obligated to discharge his Rufs servants, *ibid.* Complains heavily of ill usage in several particulars, *ibid.* & seq. Refuses a present sent him from the emperor, 387. His conference

with the Swedish commissary, 388. His letter to the chancellor touching his pretave, 389. His reflections upon the manners of the Russians, 426. Inveighs against the patriarch, *ibid.* His remarks upon the chancellor's answer to his propositions, 577. His letter to the chancellor of Muscovy, 586. His third conference with the chancellor, 599. seqq. Complains of the omission of the protector's titles in the chancellor's answers, 698. His observation upon the omission of the usual ceremonies at his departure from Moscow, *ibid.* His reception at Archangel, 699. His description of the person and character of the czar, and accounts of the whole court, 711, seqq. His account of goods exported from Archangel in 1655, and their value, 713. and of the progress of the war between Rufs and the Poles, 714.

Prideaux, Edmund, attorney-general, his opinion about the power of the protector to make a lease of a Recusant's estate, 342. His account of proceedings against the prisoners at Salisbury, 361, 371, seqq. 377, seq.—at Exon, 398, 402.—at Chard, 407. His letter to secretary Thurloe concerning the master of the rolls, 598.

Priests, popish, information of several of them in England, 23.

Prior, William, his information touching col. Eaires, and others, 146.

Prisoners: See *Royalists*. List of those in the counties of Devon and Somerset, who were committed after the insurrection, 306. Their plea, 391, seqq. Names of those condemned, 394. In the gatehouse desire secretary Thurloe to present their petition to the protector, 705.

Protector unveiled, a pamphlet so called, 149.

Protestants, of Piedmont, their letter to monsieur Servien the French ambassador, 361. Cruelly massacred by the troops of Savoy, 384. Several accounts of the horrid barbarities exercised towards them, 411, seqq. 441, 443, 558, 656. Make retaliations upon the Romanists, 443, 462, 490, 656. Letter from the officers of the army in Ireland to the protector concerning them, 466. Several petitions in favour of them presented to the protector, 476. Publish a manifesto, 513. Extract of a letter from Geneva, relating to the situation of their affairs, 538. Letter from one of the deputies in France about the same, 543. A collection made for them in London, 558. Conjecture about the design of it, 568. Amount of it, 623. Copy of an amnesty proposed for them by France, 626. Negotiations for a peace set on foot, 657. Their affairs accommodated by the mediation of France, 742, 745.

— at Paris, complain of a person preaching in the streets to stir up the people against them, 564. Order thereupon, *ibid.*

— of Languedoc, give umbrage to the French court by their several levies, 684.

Pugh, Griffith, depositions of two of that name, touching the insurrection, 319, 341.

Pyle, sir Seymour, apprehended, 309. Information given against him, *ibid.*

Q.

Q *Uakers*, information of a great concourse of them at Swannington, 94. Disperse, 116. Further information against them, 117. Grow very considerable, 123.

Queriet, &c. a pamphlet so called, presented to the protector, 150. seq.

Quefney, of great use to the French, 102. Relieved, 329. Reinforced by mareschal Turenne, 452, 471. Victualled by mareschal Hoquincourt, 480.

Quincy, count de, accused of being accessary to the massacre of the protestants in Piedmont, 528.

R.

R *Anelaugh*, countess of, her letter to secretary Thurloe in favour of the children of viscount Neuterville, 421.

Rand, captain, some of his men detained by the Spaniards, 144. Complains of the behaviour of the Dutch, *ibid.*

Ratcliffe, sir George, two of his letters intercepted, 732, 750.

Read, mr. endeavours to escape from the tower, 192. His examination thereupon, *ibid.*

Reay, lord, disappoints Middleton, 42.

Recorder. See *Steele*.

Reginald, duke of, defeated by the Muscovites, 26.

Religion, proceedings in order to the settling of it in England, 36.

I N D E X.

- Remonstrators* in Scotland, their request to general Monck, 117.
- Retz*, cardinal, arrives at Rome, 1. Receives a cardinal's hat, 5. Hurt by a fall, 11. Obtains audience, 35. Present made him by the pope, 41. Declared guilty of treason in France, 48. Receives a pension from Spain, 99. His circular letters to the French bishops, burnt by the hangman, 131. Nominates two priests his vicars general in opposition to those appointed by the court, 534. Ill consequences apprehended from that affair, 562. Dispute between the French king and the pope about him, 578. His arms put up in a church at Paris, 589. A priest committed to the bastille at Paris for writing something about him which displeased the court, 671. Is sick at Rome, 684.
- Reynolds*, commissary general, his account of the state of affairs and proceedings at and about Shrewsbury, 265. Recommends the sending of a commission for the trial of prisoners, *ibid.* His proceedings in order to discover the persons concerned in the insurrection, 298. Proposes to put them to the torture to make them discover their accomplices, *ibid.* Recommends several persons for commissioners, *ibid.* Sends Armstrong and Kynaston to London, 336. and the depositions touching the late design, 356.
- Richard, his examination touching the company at fir Thomas Harris's, 283.
- Rhingrave*, represents the dangerous situation of his country to the states general, 552.
- Richard*, J. de, secretary to the Spanish ambassador at the Hague, his memorial relating to the disorders committed by the garrison of Weert, 105.
- Richmond*, duke of, his death, 312.
- Rivers*, lord. See *Thurloe*.
- Riviere*, abbot of, talked of to succeed the bishop of Langres, 131.
- Roades*, Theobald, an indenization granted him, 688.
- Roch*, mr. his information of several popish priests in England, 23.
- Rochester*, lord. See *Wilmot*.
- Rogers*, William, his proceedings in order to secure Hereford and other places against the cavaliers, 237. His account of the posture of affairs there, 216. Secures col. Birch, 262.
- Nathaniel, his information, 257. His deposition, 268.
- Thomas, his examination and deposition concerning the insurrection, 317.
- mr. a preacher, vindication of the complaints against him, 136, seq. Information against him, 483. Letter to the protector concerning him, 485.
- Roban*, Chabot, duke of, dies, 163.
- Rolle*, judge, receives his quietus, 538.
- Rolt*, major, sent envoy to Sweden, his instructions, 418. His dangerous voyage, 709. Visited by the Swedish resident at Hamburg, 710. His journey to Stetin, 736. Substance of his discourse with count Oxenstern, *ibid.* Desires a further supply of money, *ibid.*
- Romanoff*, the czar's uncle dies, 26.
- Rome*, governor of, difference between him and the Barbarini's, 5.
- Romer*, the Dutch resident at Hamburg, his letter of intelligence to the states general, 554.
- Romish* clergy, raise forces against the protestants of Piedmont, 384.
- Rose*, John, his information, 82.
- Henry, his examination, 98.
- Samuel, his examination, 403.
- Rosenwinde*, the Danish agent at London, his memorials concerning the seizure of certain Danish ships, 30, 31. Desires a pass for a ship from England, 311. Memorial delivered by him and H. Willemsen and Petrus Charisius to the states general touching the English ships detained in 1652 at Copenhagen, 642, 646.
- Rotterdam*, jealous of the French consul general, 50. Refuses to admit him in that quality, 80.
- Roughton*, William, the elder, his confession touching the insurrection at Sarum, 647.
- Rove*, Richard, his examination touching the insurrection at Sarum, 315, 630.
- Royalists*, informations against them, 64, & passim. Raise insurrections in England and Wales, 207, seqq. Seize upon the judges at Salisbury, 221. Disappointed in their expectations of several to rise with them, 246. Account of their motions, *ibid.* & seqq. Routed in Devonshire, 263. Disperse, *ibid.* & seqq. Order of council touching their trial, 295, seq. List of those taken in Devon and Somersetshire, 306, seqq. Copy of the indictment against those at Sarum 390. At Exeter, their plea, 391, seq. Names of those condemned there, 394, seq. Proclamation forbidding their inhabiting within 20 miles of London, 630. Several under confinement discharged, 637.
- Rosa*, relieved by the duke of Mercœur, 512.
- Rupert*, prince, at Heidelberg, 22. Expected at Cologne, 44. Levies forces for the duke of Modena, 414. Discharged from king Charles's court, 459. At variance with Hyde, *ibid.* Expected at Turin, 490. Engaged to go with the duke of Modena into Italy, 591. Names his general officers, *ibid.* Leaves Cologne in discontent, 659. Sends the troops raised for the duke of Modena to Italy, and proposes to go himself into the Swedish service, 683.
- Russians*, approach to the borders of Sweden, 16. Profess great friendship for that court, *ibid.* See *Muscovites*.
- Rusmigh*, admiral of Sweden, dies, 24.
- Ruyter*, vice-admiral, convoys some ships to Italy, 154. Designed for Sallée, 552. Goes towards the West, 615.

S.

- Sacheverel*, Thomas, his examination, 329.
- Salisbury*, an insurrection there, 221. Notes concerning it, 295. Proceedings against the prisoners there, 361, 370.
- Salter*, Richard, examined touching the design at Shrewsbury, 271.
- Sanderfon*, Samuel, his information against some suspected Persons, 248.
- Savage*, an intercepted letter from him, 537.
- Savoy*, duke of, proposed to marry cardinal Mazarin's niece, 1. Marriage between his daughter and the French king proposed, with what view, 2. Conditions of his marriage with Mazarin's niece, 12. Complains of the French troops quartered in his country, 84. Bound to assist the catholics of Switzerland, 144. Repeats his outrages against the protestants, 481. His answer to the commissioners of the protestant cantons, 535. Agrees to a truce with them, 654. and makes a peace, 702, 745.
- dukes of, taken with an apopleckick fit, but recovers, 479.
- prince Thomas of, his expedition, in order to second marechal Grancy, laid aside, 39. Signifies his safe arrival in Savoy to the French court, 40. His son prince Philibert to command under him as general of the horse, 402. Proposes to meet the duke of Modena at Saccon, 455. Gives the marquis Pianezze the lie, and strikes him, 628. Enters the Milanese, 679.
- ambassador of, at Paris spreads a report of the grand seignior's having massacred the English, 589.
- Saxony*, elector of, supplies king Charles with money, 19.
- Schaum*, Constantine, the prince of Transylvania's envoy to the protector, visits resident Bradshaw in his passage to England, 277. His speech to the protector, 422, seq. Desires secretary Thurloe to procure him a speedy dismission, 462.
- Schomberg*, count, endeavours to engage many persons of quality in the Palatinate in the service of France, 414.
- Schoppe*, lieutenant general in Brasil, his petition to the council of war concerning the process against him, 39. Proceedings thereupon, *ibid.* and 50.
- Scotland*, account of, the sum necessary to complete the payment of the forces there, 43.
- council of, additional instructions for them, 97. Order relating to their number, 423. Their names, *ibid.* Salary appointed for the clerk and his assistant, 701.
- Scott*, mr. Thomas, his letter to Thurloe, in favour of mr. Werden, 350.
- Seaford*, lord, deserts Middleton, 42.
- Seal*, great, taken from the commissioners, 537.
- Sealy*, Henry, his letter to secretary Thurloe about mr. Thomas Botson, 187.
- Searle*, Daniel, governor of Barbadoes, remarks upon his behaviour, 249, seq. His account of the condition of the forces there, 499.
- Sedgewicke*, major-general, sails with a fleet to reinforce admiral Penn, 623.
- Senneterre*, marechal de, splendid reception given to his lady at Nantz, 441. Number and rendezvous of his troops, *ibid.*
- Seymour*, mr. Henry, sent to the tower, 537.
- Servien*, monsieur, his reflection upon Bordeaux, 10. Attends Mazarin to give an account of the publick money, 40.

I N D E X.

40. Talk of taking the treasure from him, 84. His discourse with Bordeaux senior, about the peace with England, 303.
- Servien*, ambassador at Turin, forbids the governor and consuls of Pragela assisting the protestants of Piedmont, 413. His letter to Bordeaux, ambassador in England, of the affairs of Piedmont, 597. To count Brienne about the same, 655. Enters upon his negotiations for a peace between the duke of Savoy and the protestants, 657. Concludes the treaty, 706, 724.
- Saxby*, endeavours used to apprehend him, 162, seq. 163. Some soldiers imprisoned at Weymouth upon that account, 194, seq.
- Sforza*, cardinal, named by the pope for his successor, 69.
- Sheffield*, William, his and Cockrain's account of a concourse of quakers in Leicestershire, 94. Of their dispersing, 116.
- Sheldrake*, William, his account of the disposition of the people in Norfolk towards the protector, 328.
- Shelly*, Elieus. See *Cromwell*.
- Shelcock*, Philip, his deposition, touching the insurrection, 353.
- Shenton*, Robert, of Eyton, his examination on oath, 267.
- Shrewsbury*, information of an attempt against it designed, 207, seqq. Proceedings in order to secure it, 218, 265. Examination taken about the design to surprize it, 270, 285, seqq.
- Simonds*, Henry, his examination touching a correspondence with king Charles, 335.
- Skinner*, John, } their examination, 65.
— Thomas, }
- Smidmore*, Abraham, his letter from Argier to mr. Casson, 157.
- Smith*, adjutant general, recommended by Monck to have a vacant troop, 217.
- John, his information, touching the rising at Sarum, 649.
- Thomas, of Bristol, apprehended, 351. His examination, 352.
- Thomas, an intercepted letter from him, 503.
- Uftace, his letter to general Blake, of the sailing of the Spanish fleet, 694.
- Francis, alias Carrington, his examination touching the plot, 364.
- Smolensco*, surrendered to the Muscovites, 26.
- Socinians*, endeavours used to suppress them in Holland, 50. Increase in that province, *ibid.* & seq.
- Sontley*, mr. Roger, his letter to colonel Jones touching an insurrection apprehended in Montgomeryshire, 209.
- South*, Thomas, warns secretary Thurloe of a design against the protector's person, 353.
- Southampton*, mayor, &c. of, complain of the keys of the town being forced from them by capt. Jubbs, 273.
- Spaar*, Gustavus, the Swedish envoy at the Hague, demands audience, 495. His memorial delivered to the states general, 509.
- Spada*, cardinal, sick at Rome, 417.
- Spain*, king of, orders the goods taken from the Genoese to be restored, 41. Conjecture about the design of his fleet fitting out at Cadiz, 156. An order for restoring some plate belonging to him in England, 201. His differences with Genoa said to be composed, 367. Proposes to fit out a considerable fleet, 374, 569. Sends orders to the Galleons at the Havanna to return home, 389. Names an ambassador to Rome, 517. Orders rogations to be made in the convents for the safe arrival of the plate fleet, 542. Proposes to treat with the Turk for an union against England, 610. Makes great preparations to drive Blake from his coasts, 716, 742.
- queen of, with child, 520.
- Spaniards*, send back the Naples train-bands from Barcelona, 143. Thought to have assurances of assistance from England, 168. Condition of their fleet at Naples, 321. Design of it, *ibid.* and 634, 702, 750. Forced to retreat out of the duke of Modena's territories with loss, 321, 329. Lose a friend at Rome by cardinal Montalto's death, 402. In great perplexity about admiral Penn, 418. Their admiral ship of the south sea cast away, 420. Desirous of peace with France upon account of England, 517. In great anxiety about their plate fleet, 542, 609. Weak at sea, 609. Their affairs in Italy in a bad situation, 634. Accuse Cromwell of ingratitude, 695. Motions of their fleet, 724.
- Spanish* ambassador at Rome, his conduct, 5. His audience of the conclave, 293. Subject of it, 294.
- Spanish* ambassador at London. See *Cardenas*, and *Leda*. Desire the protector's answer to their propositions, 154. Letter of their secretary to secretary Thurloe, 155. Endeavour to increase the people of England against the catholics, 680.
- ambassador at the Hague. See *Gamarra*. Complain of some designs carried on against his master, 498.
- ambassador to the emperor. See *Penaranda*.
- plate fleet, rogations made in the convents of Spain for it's safe arrival, 542.
- Spinola*, the Genoese ambassador to France; preparations for his reception, 9. Arrives at Paris, 10.
- Spoleto*, archbishoprick of, conferred by the new pope upon cardinal Fachinetti, 401.
- Stamford*, William, offers to give intelligence to the protector of the designs of king Charles, 274, seq. 279. Conditions demanded by him, 279. Complaints of receiving no answer to his proposals, 340.
- States General*, suspend Berverning's commission of treasurer general, 15. Their resolution touching some cattle taken out of Boileduc by the garrison of Weert, 38. Write to the archduke about the plunder of Buydell, 49. Dispute about their right of judging officers in their service, 50. End aimed at thereby, *ibid.* Appoint commissioners to treat with the Spanish ambassador, 155. Their resolution touching instructions for their deputies employed to adjust the differences in the Ommelands, 424, seq. Alarmed at the armaments and designs of Sweden, 440, 450, seq. Their letter to the duke of Savoy touching the massacre of the protestants in Piedmont, 443. Highly enraged at that affair. Resolve to write to the French king about it, 494. Desire the college of Amsterdam to draw up instructions for de Ruyter, 499. Their letter to the burgomasters of Embden, touching a conference to be had between their commissioners and those of East Friesland, 580. Order their resident in Denmark to found the king about the preparations of the Swedes, 588, seq. Their resolution touching a sum of money claimed by the French king, 590. Concerning an extraordinary commissioner to be sent into Switzerland, 609. Their order upon the Polish ambassador's memorial, 613. ambassador in England to found the protector about Sweden, 618. Refer the complaints of the country of Cleve to commissioners, 665. Their proceeding upon a memorial of the Danish ministers relating to the losses sustained by the Danes during the war with England, 666. Debates touching the oath to be taken by the commissioners in the affair of East Friesland, *ibid.* Heads of a letter proposed to be sent to the judges of the chambre mipartie, 684. Order the copy of their answer to the lord Spaar to be sent to Heinius at Stockholm, 688. Propose to make an alliance with Denmark against Sweden, 704. Make an order for seizing one James, an English pirate, 718. Resolve to write to Nieuport to inform himself of the negotiations between England and Sweden, 729. Disavow their knowing any thing of their subjects reinforcing the Venetian fleet, *ibid.*
- Steele*, Mr. recorder, his and judge Aske's letter to secretary Thurloe, desiring troops for their security in the circuit, 244. Desires particular directions about his return, 304. His opinion about the protector's power of making a lease of a recusant's estate, 342. Nominates two persons for master of requests, 540.
- Stephens* . . . Intercepted letters to and from him, 614, 671.
- Stierum*, earl of, captain of horse in the Dutch service, disbanded, for taking on, in the Swedes service, 524.
- Stone*, sir Robert, his letters to secretary Thurloe about Armorier and others, 137, 162.
- Stouppe*, mr. 459, 460.
- St. André*, Montbrun, lieutenant general of the army in Piedmont, his letter to monf. de Ize pastor at Grenoble, with an account of the motions of the army, 560.
- St. Domingo*, account of the defeat of the English there, 514, 755.
- St. John*, lord chief justice, resolves to go his circuit, 227. Thanks the protector for his care for their safety, 246. Attended by a troop of horse at Norwich, 284. His letter to secretary Thurloe touching the office of custos brevium, 640. To the same, touching certain prisoners at Bury, 693.
- St. Lo*, mr. his examination touching Penruddock, 314. His second examination, 330. Brought to London instead of being sent to Salisbury goal, 374.

I N D E X.

- St. Martin's* parish in the fields, sum collected there for the protestants of Piedmont, 591.
- Stradling*, John, his information concerning the plot against the protector, 181, 191.
- Strickland*, mr. apprehensive of ill consequences from the opinion of the judges about the ordinance relating to treason, 385.
- Strong*, John, his information touching the insurrection at Sarum, 648.
- Sturgeon*, John, his examination touching the author of a pamphlet reflecting upon the protector, 739.
- Suffolk*, commissioners, their proceedings in settling the militia, 292.
- Suffex*, commissioners, their representation of the danger to which that county is exposed, 324.
- Swanton*, Francis, steward to sir Henry Berkley, information against him, touching the rising at Sarum, 330, seq.
- mr. his information against mr. Willoughby, 648.
- Sweden*, great damages done to the copper mines there, 641.
- king of, See *Treaty*. Sends an ambassador to the czar, 27. Motions of his troops, 53. Falls dangerously ill, 168. Gives great commendations to Bordeaux the French ambassador in England, 214. Conjecture about the design of his armaments, 224, 345, seq. 414, seq. Deeply engaged in the interest of king Charles, 345, seq. Means used by him to raise money, 414. Prepares to leave Stockholm, *ibid.* His departure why deferred, 423. Augmentation made to his revenue, 424. Resolves to assist in the campaign, tho' against the mind of the states, *ibid.* Proposes to attack Dantzick by sea and land, 440. Conjectures about his further designs, 418, 471, 473, 524, 561. Arrests all the Dutch ships at Riga, 494. Orders his troops to march towards Pomerania, 513. Assures the emperor of his not having any design against him, 532. His troops in Bremen decamp, 554. Proposes to take the Polish ambassadors along with him into Pomerania, 578. Writes to king Charles, 591. Refuses to accept of any mediator, 598. Sets sail for Pomerania, 641. Disgusted at the states general, 672. His high demands from the elector of Brandenburg, 703, 707. Takes Mittau in Courland, 708. Demands a large contribution for the country about it, *ibid.* Goes from Stetin to Dam, 710. His answer to the king of Poland's desire of a parly, 728. Marches towards Warlaw, *ibid.* and 749. Goes to Conin in Poland, 736. His navy in fight of Dantzick, 741. Not sure of the election of Brandenburg, 749.
- Queen of (Christina) Makes a solemn entry into Brussels, 28. Solicites about a general peace, 39. Much caressed by the Spaniards, 45. Several flying reports about her, *ibid.* Sends for her goods from Antwerp, 49. Much affected to the Spaniards. *ibid.* Sends a sharp answer to Chanut, *ibid.* Magnificently entertained at Brussels, 53. Reports about her designs, 54. Her behaviour censured, 144. Makes the archduke a present of a fine horse, 502. Continues at Brussels, 503. Sends for her pensions, which are denied her, 611. Prepares to go to Rome, 742.
- Eleonora, preparations for her funeral, 433.
- States of, separate, 578.
- Swedish* resident, at Hamburgh, visits mr. Bradshaw, 224.
- envoy in England, desires leave to raise some forces for the use of his master, 477. See *Bond* and *Coyet*.
- in Holland. See *Spaar*.
- commissary at Mosco, excuses his deferring to visit mr. Prideaux, 187.
- Switzerland*, protestant cantons of, differences between them and the popish cantons, 144. Their letter to the states general, 416. An account of the situation of their affairs, 716. See *Protestants*.
- T.
- Taaf*, lord, visits the pope's nuncio, 12. Levies men for the duke of Newburgh, 44.
- Tacitus*, his reflection on the instability of the French applied to the English, 163.
- Talbot*, Sherington, apprehended, 334.
- Tanat*, Rees, his examination, 254.
- Tarante*, prince, debate in the states general about the present to be given him, 633.
- Taunton*, information of a rising intended there, 148.
- Taylor*, mr. his letter to mr. Harrison, 29.
- Thomas*, prince. See *Savoy*.
- Rowland, sent to the tower, 87. Charge against him, 95.
- mr. Humphrey, his deposition touching the plot, 287.
- Thornes*, Francis, his information, 258. His deposition, 266.
- Thorpe*, Baron, ordered (with serjeant Glynn) to repair to the protector, 332.
- Thurloe*, secretary, his letter to lord Rivers, touching a debt due from his father to sir John Litcott, 18. Letters of information to him, 148, 156, 567. His letter to H. Cromwell touching the condition of the protestants under the duke of Savoy, 440. His answer to the Dutch ambassador's remonstrances about the superscription of the protector's letters to the states general, 477, seq. Indisposed, 593. His letter to count Charost governor of Calais, 692. To H. Cromwell, concerning the forces ordered to be sent back, 711.
- Tieborne*, alderman, his letter to secretary Thurloe, in favour of John Kansey, condemned at Salisbury, 381.
- Tinmouth*, governor of. See *Topping*.
- Tolhurst*, major, governor of Carlisle, his representation of the ruinous condition of the castle there, 300, seq.
- Tomley*, John, his examination touching the plot, 340.
- Tomson*, William, his letter to the protector, 134.
- Topping*, mr. his information against dr. Newton, and others, 138. Apprehends and examines mr. Robert Marley, 207. His account of several other suspected persons, 208. His proceedings in securing Tinmouth castle, 262. Desires a greater force for that purpose, *ibid.*
- Townley*, mr. complained of by mr. Bradshaw, 93, &c. See *Bradshaw*. Goes for England to endeavour to justify himself, 152. Representation of his designs, 266.
- Transplantation*, arguments against, complaint against a book so called, 139.
- Transylvania*, prince of, his letter to the protector, 438. To secretary Thurloe, 439.
- envoy of, to the protector. See *Schaum*.
- Trafsey*, James, his information touching the plot, 364.
- Treasury*, commissioners of, represent the necessity of continuing stewards of courts, bailiffs of manors, &c. 587.
- Treaty* between the Spaniards and Genoeve, state of it, 1, 28.
- between England and France. See *Bordeaux*. Difficulties in point of signing it, 4, 5, 6, 135. Exception made to the article concerning the ratification, 123. Further proceedings in it, 128, 185. Several reasons assigned for the delay of it, 381.
- between Sweden and Bremen concluded, 14. Substance of it, 22.
- maritime, between England and Holland. Heads of one propounded by the Dutch ambassador, 32.
- between Sweden and Poland set on foot, 597.
- between the states general and Brandenburg, 494. Proceedings thereon, 495. At a stand, 551. Concluded, 671.
- between the duke of Savoy and the protestants of Piedmont, begun, 657. Concluded, 706. Executed, 724.
- Trevor*, Arthur, his letter to secretary Thurloe touching certain books relating to the transactions in Ireland, 550.
- Triflam*, Edward, of Maesbrooke, his information, 259.
- Tromp*, Van, design'd to sail towards the east, 552. Dines with the King of Denmark, 660.
- Trumbell*, Edward, his information of a design upon Newcastle, 216.
- Tunis*, dey of, insults general Blake, 326. Nine of their ships burnt in that harbour, by Blake, 390. Satisfaction given to the grand vizier by the English ambassador touching that affair, 663. Great complaints against the English about it, 726.
- Turenne*, marshal de, stops a process against one of the duke of Orleans's followers, 2. Number of his troops, 28, 441. Reinforces Quefnoy, 452, 471. Joins marshal de la Ferté. 534. Substance of his letter to his lady from before Landrecy, 610.
- Turkish* ambassador, at Vienna, departs, 22.
- Turks* make preparations for the Mediterranean, 48.
- Turner* Edmund, his information touching a design to seize Newcastle, 222.
- Tuscany*, great duke of, his secretary's letter to his resident in England touching some wines sent to the protector, 147. Mediates between the Spaniards and the duke of Modena, 321.
- V.
- Vallence*, commander of, undertakes an embassy to Rome, 86.
- Vane*, sir Walter, his letter to sir Henry Vane, intercepted, 81.

I N D E X.

81. To Thurloe, desiring the removal of arms and soldiers from Raby castle, 745.
- Vaughan*, Edward, his examination, 244, seq.
- Arthur, his examination, 253, seq.
- Venables*, general, commander of the forces sent to the West-Indies, his commission, 16. His letter to general Searle, governor of Barbados, touching the store-ships, 411. Account of his defeat at Hispaniola, 505, seq. 689. His accounts of the weak condition of the forces in America, 509, seqq. 545. Desires a supply of ships and other necessities, 598. His conduct greatly blamed, 646, 755.
- Peter, a letter to him intercepted, 553.
- Vendosme*, duke, senior, refused the command of the ships offered to be furnished by the farmers of the taxes, 85. Orders some English ships to be released, 463. Countermands that order, 487. His answer to the English consul thereupon, 513, 539. Condition of his fleet, 560.
- Venice*, state of, hasten their preparations for the Campaign, 5. Make a present to the king of Sweden's brother, *ibid.* Instance of the prejudice entertained by the people against the Spaniards, 619. Their fleet breaks through the Turkish armada, and sails for Candia, 663. Their loss in that action, *ibid.*
- ambassador, at Vienna, takes leave of the emperor, 21.
- ambassador at Paris, his conference with the pope's nuncio, 48.
- Vermuyden*, a paper of his to the protector, containing conjectures about the designs of the king of Sweden, 652.
- Vernon*, colonel, notes for his examination, 94.
- Walter, his examination, 104.
- Vienna*, a design formed by several Turkish spies to fire it, discovered, 451.
- Vigar*, mr. a rich usurer of Yerington, information against him touching the rising at Salisbury, 330, seq.
- Vilna*, taken by the Russians, 714. Terrible slaughter made of the Poles there, *ibid.*
- Viole*, president, his letters to Barriere, 38, 54, 534. To the prince of Condé, 503. His account of some proceedings in the siege of Landrecy, 599. His conjecture about the designs of mareschal Turenne, 641.
- monsieur, brother to the president, sent to the bastile for siding with cardinal de Retz, 671.
- Virginia*, an order of court for returning an answer to the protector's letter concerning lord Baltimore, 590. Copy of the said answer, 596.
- Vissier*, grand, disgraced, 726.
- Vries*, the Dutch envoy in Denmark, his letter to the states general touching the designs of the king of Sweden, and the disposition of the court of Denmark towards him, 659.
- Unst*, Nicholas, caution taken about him at Dover, 164.
- W.
- W***ade*, colonel, his letter to general Disbrowe, about raising forces in Gloucestershire, 239.
- Wagstaff*, mr. Richard, his representation touching certain dangerous persons about Bedford, 559.
- Wales*, an insurrection there, 207, seqq. Quashed, 226. Represented as disaffected to the protector, 245.
- Walley*, Charles, an intercepted letter of his to Peter Venables, 523.
- Walters*, major Robert, makes his escape, 304. Information concerning him, 722, seq.
- Wannerton*, William, his examination touching the insurrection at Salisbury, 326.
- Warburton*, mr. his account of the disposition of the people in several counties, 738.
- Watson*, Daniel, his information against capt. Vernon, 100.
- Wayte*, Barnard, committed to Iwelchester goal, on suspicion of high treason, 693.
- Edward, of Trowbridge, his examination touching the insurrection at Sarum, 624.
- Webb*, William, servant to sir Thomas Peyton, his examination touching mr. Symonds, 350.
- Wentworth*, lord, differs with Hyde in king Charles's court at Cologne, 114. In small credit there, 532.
- Werden*, mr. Robert, complains of being made prisoner notwithstanding his protection, and desires the protector's order for his release, 337. Certificate given him by the commissioners of Chester, 338. His examination, 348.
- West*, Alexander, an intercepted letter from him, 613.
- West-Indies*, observations concerning them laid before the protector, 59.—63. Provisions necessary for the expedition thither, 203, seq. Several accounts of the proceedings and condition of the English there, 504, seqq. 647.
- 649, seq. 674, seq. 682, 689. Considerations touching the army there, 661. Declaration of the officers of the army there, 681. Character of the governors of several of the colonies, 754.
- Weyman*, lord, the elector of Brandenburg's minister at the Hague, substance of his conference with several commissioners relating to the treaty, 615.
- Whalley*, judge advocate, his account of the proceedings against several disaffected officers at Edinburgh, 205, seq. His proceedings about some printed letters sent thither, 217.
- mr. Penniston, sent in custody to the protector, 240. His examination, 241.
- Wheeler*, Charles, an intercepted letter to his mother from Amsterdam, 651.
- White*, Andrew and Richard, seized by order of cardinal Mazarin and sent to the bastile, 68, 69. Examined by the cardinal and remanded to prison, 84.
- mr. an intercepted letter to him, 732.
- Whitelock*, Jo. his proceedings in order to secure Canterbury, 336.
- Whitehorn*, captain, apprehends three suspected persons in a Scotch bark, and sends their names and descriptions to secretary Thurloe, 333.
- Widdrington*, sir Thomas, his letter to Thurloe, touching mr. Hewley, a lawyer, 385.
- Wildman*, major, apprehended, 147. Notes about his plot, *ibid.* & seq.
- Wilford*, Richard, apprehended at Gravesend, 204. His examination, 205.
- Wilkes*, lieutenant colonel, his examination touching major general Overton, 197.
- Wilkie*, mr. in custody, writes to secretary Thurloe for a hearing, or a release upon bail, 54.
- Williams*, Oliver, his examination, 88. His information against an agent from the pope, 309.
- Edward, his examination, 166.
- Willoughby*, lord of Parham, committed to the tower, 537.
- Wilmot*, lord, receives money from the elector of Saxony for king Charles's use, 19. Has the care of his affairs in Scotland, 45. Goes to Hamburgh, *ibid.* Quarrels with Ormonde, 114. Search made for him in England, 273. Entertained by the king of Denmark, 277. Apprehended at Ailesbury, 335. Escapes, 336. Passes for a Frenchman at London, 339. Arrives at Cologne, 561.
- Wilson*, captain, governor of Dover, excuses the releasing of Wright, 164. Gives notice of several suspected persons arrived at Dover, *ibid.* His proceedings in apprehending several others, 179, seq. Censure cast upon him, 190.
- mr. James, the English consul at Cadiz, his account of the loss of the admiral of the South-sea, and the proceedings of the court of Spain thereupon, 389. Greatly endangers the English by his abrupt departure from Cadiz, 569. Acquaints the governor of an intended breach with Spain, *ibid.*
- Wiltshire* assizes, names of persons condemned there, 365, seq.
- Winchester*, marquis of, his son imprisoned at London, 593.
- Windham*, Francis, esq; his petition to the protector for release from prison, upon his engaging to surrender, 397.
- Winslow*, mr. Edward, his account of the state of affairs at Barbados, 249, seqq. His opinion about an oath, 251. His further account of the proceedings of the English at Barbados, 325.
- Wiseman*, Robert, his information touching mr. Read, 322.
- Richard, surgeon to king Charles, information about him, 243. State of his case, 407.
- Witt*, John de, his letter to Nieuport, 52, 81, 551. His marriage, 144. Arrives at the Hague from Gronenghen, 474.
- Wittenberg*, mareschal, marches with his army towards Pomerania, 424, 671.
- Wolfeley*, sir Charles, reports the resolutions of the committee of council at Whitehall, touching the trial of the persons concerned in the insurrection, 295.
- Wooden*, Robert, his examination, 71, 72.
- Woodhouse*, mr. the English consul at Tunis, re-admitted, 637.
- Worrel*, Thomas, his examination, 65.
- Worfeley*, father, a jesuit, information of his being in England, 207.
- Wray*, William, governor of Beaumaris, his account of a plot to surprize it, 128.
- Wrexham*, an attempt against it, apprehended, 208, 214.
- Wright,

I N D E X.

Wright, fir Benjamin, an intelligeneer at Madrid, represents the great danger he is in by corresponding with secretary Thurloe, 366. His account of several transactions in Spain, *ibid.*, and 420, 478, 517, 542.

— *mr. Nicholas*, released by an oversight, 164. Description of him, *ibid.*

Wyndham, William, desires secretary Thurloe to forward his petition to the protector for his releasement from the tower, 462.

Wynne, Richard, his examination touching the insurrection, 272.

Wys, Gabriel, deputy of the protestant cantons at Turin, desires a suspension of arms in their behalf, 608.

Y.

YORK, duke of, groundless report of his leaving Paris in order to meet the king in England, 224. Expected in Cornwall on the insurrection, 344, *seq.* In great esteem at Paris, 369. Proposed to go to Rome, in

case of a peace between England and France, 480. Goes to court, 611. Has the charge of the convoys and recruits sent to Landrecy, 617. To leave France upon the conclusion of the treaty with England, 679.

Younger, *mr.* engages for two suspected persons, 164.

Z.

Zeland, states of, hesitate about giving Heinfius a general credential, 80. Reason of it, *ibid.* Their provincial advice, touching the treaty of Elbing, 108. Great divisions among them, 551. Their advice touching the differences in Overysse, 615. Design to propose the election of a stadtholder, *ibid.* Their proposal concerning the education of the young prince of Orange, 633.

Zurich, canton of, besiege Rapelwil, 92. Letter of the consul and senate to the protector touching the English resident Fleming's debts, 342. Extract of a letter from thence, touching the protestants of Piedmont, 585.

Zwol. See *Overysse*.



End of the INDEX to the THIRD VOLUME.

